



# VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND

ANNUAL REPORT 2012 –13

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### President Report

**RICHARD CALLICOTT**

I am personally delighted to be able to write as President that it has been a privilege and an honour to be President of Volleyball England, particularly this year. We have just seen the most memorable year of Volleyball in our history, with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games but we have also secured funding from Sport England for the next four year cycle towards 2017! This will enable us to provide varied opportunities for all those inspired by the London Games to come to Volleyball and experience the fun and opportunities it provides, with the hope that some will continue and others flourish through a player pathway into international players ready to represent Great Britain and NI in future games.

Our Go Spike campaign has seen significant outcomes and a much higher visibility along with our club development programmes.

The organisation last year demonstrated beyond doubt the professionalism we have within the sport, across all areas. The competitions and events team continue to provide top quality events having gained invaluable experience for both staff and

volunteers at the games, and particularly at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering. I know players and supporters alike welcome having a home for Volleyball in England!

I was personally delighted this year to induct the Great Britain Squads into the Dr Don Anthony Hall of Fame, my only sadness being that Don was not with us on the day, but I was delighted his family came to present the awards to the Olympian/Paralympians! I know Don is still watching over us as we play!

To the Board of Directors, and all those who have contributed so much to the development and expansion of our sport in all its 3 disciplines of Volleyball, Beach Volleyball and Sitting Volleyball a fully inclusive sport. Thank you for an exhausting year, old plans ending, new plans starting, Olympic and Paralympic Games, external reviews and meetings, meetings, thank you for your continued commitment and time you commit to the sport and passion you provide. The outcomes and achievements in this report are down to your vision and stewardship, alongside the continued excellent delivery from our staff and thousands of volunteers - thank you!

Thank you again, and very best wishes for the next year of volleyball!!!

Richard Callicott OBE  
President



### Chief Executive Report

**LISA WAINWRIGHT**

Never has it been more challenging than to write an introduction to a Volleyball England Annual Report than to do so for the years covering a home Olympic and Paralympic Games! I am sure all of you involved with the game will be so proud of not only our fantastic sport but also the whole of Team GB and the team at LOCOG. It was an honour and privilege to be part of such a memorable occasion.

For the first time ever, we secured home nation slots for all our 6 GB teams with men and women indoor exciting capacity crowds at Earls Court, the beach men and women's teams competing in the most iconic venue of all the games at Horse Guards Parade and last but definitely not least the men's and women's sitting volleyball squads making us more than proud at Excel. To the 1,000 plus volunteers who we managed to thank through tickets for the games purchased specifically to recognise our volunteers, to the clubs and players who now have as part of the legacy one or more of the 3,000 items from the games, be them balls, nets, posts or floors - these have all come back to the volleyball community. Alongside this, let's not forget the huge task staff had in ensuring the legacy of the sand was used to build new courts around the country. A logistical challenge but extremely successful and indeed a piece of legacy any other sport would have been proud to have achieved. Our international federation are very impressed with this particular outcome, now having 49 inland beach courts in England.

To all the Olympians and Paralympians who were formally inducted to the Dr Don Anthony Hall of Fame following the games and indeed all our Games Makers, Torch Bearers, Technical Officials and wonderful spectators - you made the games for us all - congratulations and thank you! For the 900,000 British spectators who were lucky to buy a ticket to see some volleyball - what a show - the greatest on earth!

And then alongside this, the sport continued with a huge campaign to attract new people - gospike! This has now seen 36,000 people have a go and at least 5,000 people now coming into the game to play weekly. The Game in a Bag was a huge success even with the recently appointed President of FIVB, Dr Ary Graça!

I am delighted that we now have 66 Higher Education Volleyball Officers (HEVO's) in place across the country and know that these key volunteers will be the future of the sport, developing their volleyball skills and motivating more students to come into the sport. This programme is the envy of many sports, so much so other programmes are now being developed - be proud - we were the first and lead the way!

Of great sadness this year, was the passing of Dr Don Anthony our Honorary President. He didn't quite make it to the London 2012 Games but he was in all our hearts. We held a special celebration event in London just after the games along with the British Olympic Foundation - a fitting event for such a well loved and respected man.

Notwithstanding all this activity, this year was also time for our 4 year submission to Sport England. The was completed and the £4.6m funding agreement announced in December for the period up to March 2017. With the understandable pressure and additional work created by the games I must give particular thanks to staff who managed to hit every deadline to secure our core funding for another 4 years.

Lisa Wainwright  
Chief Executive

# EXPAND MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE PEOPLE TO ENJOY VOLLEYBALL

2012-13 has been an exciting year for the growth of volleyball across England, particularly with the raised profile we have received by hosting an Olympic Games that drew 900,000 to volleyball venues across the Olympics and Paralympics. The work of the Development Team has been to channel this increased profile and excitement into continued regular

## GO SPIKE

APRIL 2011 – MARCH 2012

THE GO SPIKE CAMPAIGN WAS CREATED BY VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND AFTER IT WAS IDENTIFIED VIA THE ACTIVE PEOPLE SURVEY (APS) THAT THERE HAD BEEN A DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ADULTS PARTICIPATING IN VOLLEYBALL ON A REGULAR BASIS.

The campaign began in July 2011 with the aim of getting 10,100 more adults (16+) playing volleyball by the end of March 2013. The number of opportunities to play volleyball in England over the last twelve months has increased significantly, helping over 25,500 people get into volleyball and 1,500 now playing regularly.

The Go spike campaign has developed and supported a number of initiatives which have helped to raise the profile of the sport and encourage adult participation in volleyball.

This has included:

Open recreational club sessions

Team to Club Project

Community Development Coaches (CDCs) open sessions and links to club activity

Six week taster sessions in Leisure Centres

Outdoor volleyball equipment hire to external organisations

Public beach facilities (both permanent and semi permanent)

Come and try courts at external and internal events

All targeted activity has been promoted via the Go Spike website – [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net) and social media outlets. PR company Promote PR have been sued to support press releases on articles in local, regional and national newspapers, magazines, radio stations and TV. Data has been captured

participation and with projects such as Premier League 4 Sport, our Higher Education Volleyball Officer (HEVO) programme and the Go Spike campaign yielding record number of participants we certainly believe we are moving towards our goals of increasing participation in all forms of volleyball.

on a monthly basis to monitor and evaluate each aspect of the campaign to see how effective each area is in the overall contribution of getting more adults 16+ playing volleyball.

An 18 month review has been put together to give an insight into the campaign between July 2011 – December 2012. An online version of this is available via the Go Spike website – [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net).

### GO SPIKE HEADLINES

The following data is a summary on the impact of the initiatives within the Go Spike campaign that have been recorded over the last year (between 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012)

20,100 unique visitors (34,463 total) to the Go Spike website – [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net)

8,415 users on the permanent beach courts

7,620 took part at volleyball on come and try courts at events

6,817 users on semi permanent beach courts

1,467 new participants in clubs, of which 889 are now participating regularly

849 new participants via Community Development coaches of which 596 are now participating regularly

374 participants used the Come & Try courts at each of the Volleyball England Beach Tour stops. Over the next year the campaign will continue to create opportunities for new people to get into the sport.



## PREMIER LEAGUE 4 SPORT

THE PREMIER LEAGUE 4 SPORT PROJECT HAS CONTINUED TO GROW AND EVOLVE WITH MORE SPORTS INTRODUCED TO THE OFFER THIS YEAR, RESULTING IN A HIGHER LEVEL OF COMPETITION TO BE A SELECTED SPORT. VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND HAS CONTINUED TO WORK WITH 16 PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUBS WITH A TOTAL OF 52 SUCCESSFUL SATELLITE CLUBS, BASED ON SCHOOL OR COLLEGE SITES.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

This year there has been a strong focus on creating a robust and accurate reporting system to ensure the numbers of young people registered as attending the sessions are correct and that individuals can be tracked throughout their engagement with the project. This has resulted in a higher focus on the transition of young people into the community 'hub' clubs linked with this programme that has seen volleyball achieve a 14% transition rate of newly engaged young people through to joining the community volleyball club.

- 2,619 new young people engaged in volleyball
- 8,203 young people engaged in volleyball since Sep 2009
- 5,332 (65%) of these young people have continued to participate in volleyball
- Over 450 young leaders & young officials trained

An increased awareness amongst young people, particularly in education settings

## LET'S PLAY VOLLEYBALL

Let's Play Volleyball is Volleyball England's National Youth Programme offering an interconnecting series of festivals, resources and coaching support to deliver volleyball to young people. The Let's Play Volleyball resources break the traditional 6v6 game down into small-sided game formats at 2v2, 3v3 and 4v4, suitable for all ages and able to be matched against volleyball ability.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Over 950 Young Officials and Young Leaders trained through LPV resources (954)
- 47 Let's Play Volleyball Camps delivered by Community Development Coach (CDC) network, providing high quality volleyball training around the LPV playing format for 1,196 young people
- 70 locally delivered tournaments branded and delivered as LPV Festivals by partners providing the opportunity for over 4,200 young people to play volleyball (4,253)

During the summer of 2012 volunteers and clubs worked together with the support from Volleyball England CDCs to provide opportunities for 1,486 young volleyball players to experience the exciting, fun packed atmosphere of eight Regional Let's Play Volleyball Tournaments. In July 2012,

the second ever National Let's Play Volleyball built upon last year's success and was held in Caythorpe Court PGL Centre in Lincolnshire. The two-day residential competition for 7-17 year olds was delivered to 100 young volleyball players from all over England and featured team building activities alongside hours of court time.



## STUDENT VOLLEYBALL

THIS YEAR'S HEVO PROGRAMME HAS INCLUDED 56 UNIVERSITIES AND HAS RECRUITED, TRAINED AND DEVELOPED 64 STUDENTS TO LEAD AND COORDINATE VOLLEYBALL WITHIN THEIR UNIVERSITY. THIS YEAR HAS ALSO SEEN THE CREATION OF THE SENIOR HEVO PROGRAMME (SHEVO) WHO ARE SUCCESSFUL HEVOS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN 7 SHEVOS IN PLACE TO OFFER GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR A CLUSTER OF HEVOS WITHIN THEIR AREA. THE HEVOS WITH SUPPORT FROM THEIR SHEVO HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLY DEDICATED AND MOTIVATED IN THEIR ROLES AND ACHIEVED REMARKABLE RESULTS IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2,700 new students participating in volleyball
- Over 1,500 participating weekly on average through the programme
- 12 qualified as coaches
- 20 qualified as referees
- 11 university clubs achieved Side Out accreditation
- Developed a strong a sustainable network of university volleyball clubs

This programme has received high praise from Sport England, BUCS as well as universities and continues to create opportunities for students to play volleyball whatever their standard. There have been some great examples of this across all universities and the 'HEVO network' has proven to be very strong this year with shared events, equipment and resources between HEVOs that have developed strong partnerships. There have been some great examples of volleyball festivals with Durham attracting 60 students to their Christmas volleyball festival, of which 40 were completely new to volleyball. Falmouth also achieved great success running a volleyball festival, this time alongside the BUCS surf championships in Newquay and will become an annual event in partnership with BUCS and Falmouth University.

This year has also seen the inclusion of volleyball clubs less established and some even created from scratch with the help of the HEVO programme. The resources and training given through the HEVO programme has enabled university clubs to develop efficient structures and have helped students promote the club and gain recognition from their university. This has also led to more university clubs achieving Volleyball England's Side Out accreditation which gives recognition and rewards clubs that show good practice and is a great development tool for a sustainable club. One of the newly recruited universities, the University of Bedfordshire has been successful in attracting new participants through the innovative idea of 'glow in the dark volleyball' which was supported through the HEVO programme and also provided ideas and templates for other HEVOs to run similar events themselves. This year has also seen a rise in the number of entries to both the Volleyball England student cup and the beach student cup, with the inclusion of recreational competition now available for the beach student cup in order to allow for more opportunities for participation.

**Increase the number of volley  
123 clubs coming from or  
linking to the HE sector**

# ENHANCE THE NETWORK OF CLUBS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PROVISION FOR MEMBERS

## MEMBERSHIP

Volleyball continues to grow, with 50 new clubs registering over the 2012-2013 season, whilst the number of registered coaches and referees grew by 35% and 39% respectively. The total membership for this period stands at;

- 437 affiliated clubs
- 755 registered coaches
- 493 registered referees

### ACCREDITATION

Over the season we have had 5 new clubs introduced into the Volley123 programme at Volley 1, with a further 4 clubs moving on from Volley 1 to Volley 2. This keeps the number of clubs fairly constant albeit with a minor drop-off, due clubs not reaccrediting, to have 41 accredited clubs nationwide.

VOLLEY 1	VOLLEY 2	VOLLEY 3
Bexley VC	Academy of Beach Sport	Ashcombe Volleyball Club
Chelmsford VC	City of Salford VC	Portsmouth Volleyball Club
Chester VC	Marske VC	
Cleobury VC	Newburn VC	
Croydon VC	Newcastle (Staffs) VC	
Darkstar Volleyball	Tamworth VC	
Dartford VC	Team Southampton	
Dophins VC	Tendring VC	
East Northants	Tettenhall Tigers VC	
Hermitage VC		
Kettering VC		
Lincoln Cannons VC		
Lincolnshire Sitting Volleyball		
Nottingham Rockets VC		
Nuneaton VC		
Pumas of Portsmouth VC		
Richmond VC		
Rugby Phoenix VC		
Solent VC		
Team Sandwell		
Tynedale VC		
VK Barnet		
Volleyball Taunton		
Warrington Wolves VC		
Warwick Riga VC		
Watford VC		
Wigan Seahawks		
Wirral VC		
Worthing VC		
York VC		

### FUNDING

Another service we have offered affiliated clubs is support in submitting Sport England Small Grants bids. 7 clubs were successful this year, with awards totalling just over £52,000. The clubs and their awards are as follows; Congratulations to all!!

CLUB NAME	AMOUNT AWARDED
Bristol Volleyball Club	£3,665
Cherwell Volleyball Club	£8,375
Hampshire Volleyball Association	£5,041
Richmond Volleyball Club	£9,720
Tamworth Volleyball Club	£9,779
Wimbledon Volleyball Club	£5,952
Worksop Volleyball Club	£9,832

## REFEREE COMMISSION

THE EMPHASIS THIS YEAR HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND UP SKILLING OF VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND'S OFFICIALS THROUGH MENTORING. A TOTAL OF 220 REFEREE APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED AND DEBRIEFED AT DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS ACROSS THE SEASON, THE PROCESS OF WHICH IS NOW BEING REPLICATED FOR BOTH BEACH AND SITTING VOLLEYBALL COMPETITIONS TO ENSURE SYNONYMY THROUGHOUT THE OFFICIATING PATHWAY.

### FRONTLINE REFEREEING

Across the board, referee registrations have seen an overall increase of 39%. Grade 2 registrations have experienced increases of 68% and thirteen nominations were made to the FIVB for referees fulfilling the requirement for national referee candidacy and future international status. Following the 2011 membership review, a registration structure, now including a 'technical officials' option was implemented.

The appointment of referees to Volleyball England's major domestic competitions increased this year to include appointment to Under 15 divisional rounds, BUCS and BCS national finals.

At the International level, all 6 Internationals (Sitting, Standing & Beach) were active fulfilling over 132 appointments at 11 high profile events, including 8 Bronze and 4 Gold medal matches. Appointments of an exceptional nature include Glynn Archibald's appointment to the Men's Paralympic Bronze medal match and Damien Searle's appointment to the Men's Olympic Gold medal match.

Tribute is paid to the careers of Bernard Killkenny and Damien Searle. Damien, following London 2012 retires from International duty this year and Bernard, who, after over 30 years of Referee Commission President steps aside ahead of the next 4 year strategic cycle. Steve Evans was appointed as Commission President in November.

### SUPPORT FOR REFEREES

2012 has seen introduction of an online appointment system 'Who's the Ref' to modernise the process of appointment making. This task, usually undertaken by a small working group has come under increasing pressure. With over 1500 appointments made in the first season, Who's the Ref? made the task of remote appointment easier with the view to extend the service to include the BUCS league in 2013. Targeted support for specific groups London 2012

### TARGETED SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS LONDON 2012

2012 was the culmination of the 6 year National Technical Officials (NTO) programme. The NTO programme was put in place to develop individuals to a standard good enough to be deployed at the London Olympic and Paralympic games. At its peak, 600 were engaged in the programme. Of the 97 NTOs that accomplished final selection, 84% were English. Of those, 76% were appointed to either a Gold or Bronze medal match.



## COACHING

THE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES DIVERTED THE EYES OF THE WORLD FOR A SHORT WHILE AND HUGE ATTENTION WAS DRAWN TO THE 8 GB OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC COACHES FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE A PART OF THIS HIGHEST OF INTERNATIONAL STAGES FOR SPORT. WE CAN DRAW SOME INSPIRATION IN THE FACT THAT MOST OF THESE COACHES STARTED THEIR COACHING JOURNEY WITH VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND AND WITH THE COACHING PATHWAY PREPARED BY THE COACHES COMMISSION.

One could be excused for assuming that course provision would be affected during this busiest of periods, but this could not be further from the truth. The range of courses extended in the build up to the Games with Volleyball England offering FIVB Level 3 for the first time in 15 years. The number of UKCC courses also certainly did not diminish in this period, although Level 2 was largely in a development phase until its official launch in January 2013. The first UKCC Level 2 course was started in February with 10 learners coming from a wide range of coaching backgrounds (some from the GB Olympic squad). The emergence of the Certificate course ensures that Volleyball England now have a programme of study to qualify learners to Independent Coach Level, meeting minimum industry standards for deployment. Since the start of the UKCC development in 2008, over 1700 learners have been trained and certificated to UKCC Level 1, the first stage of a development pathway that we can exploit to raise the standards of delivery across the many levels of the coaching pathway-participation to performance. The inclusion of membership in the charge for UKCC Level 1 courses has led to an increase in registered coaches. Some 719 coaches registered with the Association in this period, an increase of 35% from last year.

The Commission continues to develop its Tutor Workforce to meet the ever increasing demands of 1st4sport, our Awarding Body Partner. 7 Tutors were trained to undertake Internal Verification in this year with 5 qualified just before Christmas. This ensures we can now meet our responsibilities towards quality control to guarantee our UKCC programme meets the national standards set by the Qualifications and Curriculum Framework (QCA). Early indication from Sports Coach UK confirms the strength of our processes in delivering a quality education programme at least for the next 24 months.

The National Volleyball Centre at Kettering continues to evolve not only as a training and competition venue but also a base for coach education and development. Investment in new technologies and equipment for coaching set a bench mark for practising coaches to follow. This investment has been



recognised by FIVB, awarding us the status of Development Centre in Europe from 2013 for at least the next 5 years.

Finally, we should not forget one of Coaching's major success stories in 2013 with Tom Middleton winning the Children's Coach of the Year at the National sportscoachUK Awards having been previously awarded the overall Coach of the Year by Volleyball England. Tom continues to inspire generations of young children not only in the standing version of our game but also in Sitting.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 31 UKCC Level 1 Courses, 337 Coaches trained
- 4 VE Level 2 Courses, 38 Coaches trained
- UKCC Level 2 launched, 1 course in progress – Complete May 2013
- 12 Mini Modules Courses, 229 trained
- 5 Young Leaders Courses, 78 trained
- 20 YST Young Academy Coaches
- Total number accessing coach education in 2012/13 – 702
- Course quality assurance system launched, 7 Internal Verifiers trained.



## VOLUNTEERING

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND HAS BEEN AWARDED THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE VOLUNTEERING AWARD. ONLY 60 ORGANISATIONS FROM GREAT BRITAIN HAVE BEEN GRANTED THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD TO COMMEMORATE THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE IN 2012.

It recognises the excellent work of Volleyball England and in particular the support to volunteering.

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games have had an important impact on volunteering. Many volunteers from the volleyball community were Games Makers. This has given them numerous transferable skills to bring to back to domestic volleyball. Moreover, 120 Games Makers from outside the sport have been inspired by the Games to volunteer in volleyball. Volleyball England also successfully nominated seven volunteers to be Olympic Torchbearers, namely Steve Betts, Freda Bussey, Audrey Cooper, Lewie Lett, Gordon Neale, Will Roberts and Steve Walton. Furthermore, Tom Middleton was one of only 580 Paralympic Torchbearers.

Volleyball England launched the 'Young Event Volunteer Award' this year. This Award complements the Young Leaders Award and the Young Officials Award and gives young people the skills to volunteer at Volleyball England events or take a lead on organising small-scale events in their community. Over 100 young people have already undertaken this qualification, with some going on to volunteer at National Cup Finals.

The pool of volunteers to support the National Volleyball Centre in Kettering is growing each year. The Volunteer Coordinator group consists of 20 individuals representing 17 organisations. There are now 61 registered volunteers from Northamptonshire. The events attract volunteers from across the country and 139 volunteers applied for Cup Finals and Super 8 Play Offs.



Ilona Berry with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Volunteering Award

# 2012-2013 ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

## PETER WARDALE TROPHY

Richard Callicott

## YOUNG OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNER:** Claudiu Florea

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Hayley Crane and Robyn Wisdom

## SERVICES TO REFEREEING

**WINNER:** Dee Wauchope

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Richard Morten

## YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNERS:** Laura Woodruff and Rajveer Bual

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Edd Evans

## HEVO OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNERS:** Ray Berry and Katharina Reusch

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNER:** Alex Porter

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Ian Clews, Katharina Reusch and Lesley Shepherd

## LONG SERVICE AWARD

**WINNER:** John Biddiscombe

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Jon Chetham

## CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD

**1ST:** Newbury VC

**2ND:** Tamworth Spartans

**3RD:** Ashcombe VC

**HIGHLY COMMENDED:** Team Southampton



Clauiu Florea receives his award from sponsor



Richard Callicott



Rajveer Bual, Laura Woodruff and Edd Evans



Katharina Reusch and Ray Berry



Alex Porter



Dee Wauchope



John Bidsicombe



Newbury VC

## COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

THE 2012-2013 SEASON WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND IN THE DELIVERY OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF NATIONAL COMPETITIONS PROVIDING EXCITING VOLLEYBALL FOR THOSE ON AND OFF THE COURT.

### NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

The Volleyball England Super 8s continued to build on its focus of providing a high quality performance platform for England's best teams. The introduction of a new format two legged golden set play-off system ensured an enthralling Final Play-offs weekend at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering.

London Polonia were crowned Men's Super 8s champions, beating Team Northumbria in the final which went all the way to a Golden Set, while defending champions Team Northumbria won the Women's Division beating Polonia IMKA London. Spectators were treated to a memorable weekend of volleyball as were a worldwide audience who were able to watch via online streaming.

Wessex BU celebrated success in Men's Division One, finishing champions and gaining promotion to the Men's Super 8s, edging past London Docklands to reach the top flight.

SGTV Solent 1 beat London Docklands in the NVL Playoffs to remain in the Super 8s, while London Docklands will remain in Division 1.

Team South Wales were promoted to the Women's Super 8s after winning Division One. Loughborough Dolphins lost out to City of Salford VC in the NVL Playoffs, the former staying in Division 1, with City of Salford VC set to remain in the Super 8s.

Undefeated Northumbria / Middlesbrough Academy were crowned champions of Men's Division 2 North while Brentwood Boswells Academy won the South title whilst also remaining undefeated. In the Play-offs they were both joined by City of Bristol who won a very close play-off triangular, relegating Nottingham Rockets in the process and ensuring that Leicester VC remained in Division 2.

Herts VC won Women's Division 2 North and undefeated Surrey Orcas won the South title. They were joined by South Birmingham Ladies VC from Women's Division 2 North who battled through two hard-fought games in the play-offs.

In Men's Division 3, Manchester Marvels won North title while New Forest claimed the South title. In Women's Division 3, Manchester Marvels won the North title claiming a double for them, Dartford Ladies took the South title while TeamBath secured the West title.

The strength of all the Divisions promises a bright future for the

National Volleyball League and a thank you to all the teams who participated this year.

### NATIONAL CUP AND SHIELD

The National Volleyball Centre, Kettering was the chosen venue to host the National Cup Finals. The Men's Cup final between Team Northumbria and Wessex BU, saw the 1st placed Team in the Super 8s take on the top team in Division 1, Wessex BU came out on top. The Women's Final saw Team Northumbria beat Malory Eagles (London).

In the Men's Shield there was a win for Flaming Six Aces over Horndean VC while Tendring VC beat Loughborough Students to the Women's Shield title.

### U15, U16 AND U18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

120 teams entered the U16 and U18 National Championships this season and the finals were both staged at the National Cup Finals in April. Tameside beat Redhill Stourbridge in the U16 girl's finals. Chadwell Heath Academy were victorious over Ernest Bevin College in the boy's division. The Boswells Blaze overcame Tameside in the U18 Women's while Wessex lost 3-2 and by the narrowest of margins to The Boswells Blaze in the U18 men's final giving a thrilling finale to the Cup Final.

This year's National U15 Championships were hosted at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering. The competition attracted a record 79 team entries and saw over 130 junior athletes compete in the Finals. The Girls Final witnessed a convincing two set win for Tameside over Wessex while the Boys Final the Boswells Blaze beat Newcastle Staffs in a close match.

### VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND STUDENT CUP

The Volleyball England Student Cup is the biggest indoor volleyball student competition in the calendar and saw 89 teams taking part. Nearly 1000 students took part in the qualification heats in Leeds University, Ashcombe Volleyball Centre and the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering. The Finals at the University of East Anglia saw Northumbria University do the double and win both the Women's and Men's competition.

### VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND BEACH TOUR

Volleyball England worked closely with the Beach Commission and the VEBT Management team to create a series of professional and exciting high quality events showcasing the sport to the general public.

The Volleyball England Beach Tour was held in five locations in 2012 - Great Yarmouth, Margate, Skegness and Weston-super-Mare - with the tour culminating with the VEBT Finals at Boscombe Beach in Bournemouth. The VEBT provided a professional quality competition for elite, high and mid-



level beach volleyball players. The great atmosphere and full grandstands of the VEBT Finals saw the top beach volleyball players from all over the country come together to compete for the title of National Champions. For the second time the Finals were televised on Sky Sports, gaining great media coverage for beach volleyball and reached a peak of 65,000 viewers.

“ Sky Sports viewers peak at 65,000 viewers. ”

Tom Lord and Robin Miedzybrodzki were again crowned Men's National Champions, whilst Denise Austin and Mel Coutts (pictured) fought hard to take the title for the women. Each VEBT event earns the participants Champions' Race points and in the men, Jake Sheaf retained first place. Helen Brown also held on to the title of Champions' Race winner for the women.

Participant satisfaction with the VEBT is also on the increase – one of the highest satisfaction results in the members' survey with a score of 5.66 (scale 1-6). Additionally, with the entertainment on offer and a footfall of 20,000-60,000 at each event, the grandstands and promenades were full, the atmosphere was fantastic and the crowd participation excellent.

“ a footfall of 20,000 - 60,000 ”

There were 3 successful Junior boys VEBT events in 2012 and 1 event for the girls with a very high standard of play at each of them. The Junior VEBT is a work in progress with the aim of creating a performance pathway and providing high level

competitive opportunities for players aged under 17. The top players on the Junior VEBT were invited to compete in the Junior Finals at Boscombe Beach in Bournemouth; this was a spectacular display of what our future beach volleyball stars have to offer. Will Hartnoll and Haydn Lawson took the title for the boys and Megan Cheaney and Robyn Sayers for the girls.

The 'Go Spike' courts returned to each VEBT event in 2012, where passers-by and spectators could get a hands on experience and try beach volleyball, many for the first time. This was a huge success and will continue at all future VEBT events.

### VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND BEACH STUDENT CUP

The Volleyball England Beach Student Cup again attracted many students from across Great Britain. The sixth edition of this annual event took place on Boscombe Beach in Bournemouth. 116 students took part in the competition which included single gender pairs and mixed 4s. University of Southampton pair Renato Silva and Andreas Savvidis claimed the Men's crown whilst Northumbria University pair Magda Ropiak and Luca Toth triumphed in the Women's competition. In the mixed 4s Aston Power Rangers team of Michael Batko, Jeffrey Hung, Giulia Gillardetti and Victoria Torres took the title.

### THE SITTING VOLLEYBALL GRAND PRIX

The Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix series continued as a two tier competition for this year, involving nine regular teams and a number of guest teams including a team from supermarket giant Sainsbury's. Ashcombe Surrey Gators and East London Lynx played out the Final at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering. Ashcombe Surrey Gators clinched victory in a tense match after what had been an up and down season for the Gators.

## COMPETITION AND EVENTS - ROLL OF HONOUR SEASON 2012-13

MEN'S SUPER 8S CHAMPIONS	Polonia London
WOMEN'S SUPER 8S CHAMPIONS	Team Northumbria
MEN'S DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS	Wessex BU
WOMEN'S DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS	Team South Wales
MEN'S DIVISION 2 NORTH CHAMPIONS	Northumbria / Middlesbrough Academy
WOMEN'S DIVISION 2 NORTH CHAMPIONS	Herts VC
MEN'S DIVISION 2 SOUTH CHAMPIONS	Brentwood Boswells Academy
WOMEN'S DIVISION 2 SOUTH CHAMPIONS	Surrey Orcas
MEN'S DIVISION 3 NORTH CHAMPIONS	Manchester Marvels
WOMEN'S DIVISION 3 NORTH CHAMPIONS	Manchester Marvels
MEN'S DIVISION 3 SOUTH CHAMPIONS	New Forest
WOMEN'S DIVISION 3 SOUTH CHAMPIONS	Dartford Ladies
WOMEN'S DIVISION 3 WEST CHAMPIONS	TeamBath
MEN'S NATIONAL CUP CHAMPIONS	Wessex BU
WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP CHAMPIONS	Team Northumbria
MEN'S SHIELD CHAMPIONS	Flaming Six Aces
WOMEN'S SHIELD CHAMPIONS	Tendring VC
MEN'S U18 CHAMPIONS	Boswells Blaze
WOMEN'S U18 CHAMPIONS	Boswells Blaze
BOY'S U16 CHAMPIONS	Chadwell Heath Academy
GIRL'S U16 CHAMPIONS	Tameside VC
BOY'S U15 CHAMPIONS	Boswells Blaze
GIRL'S U15 CHAMPIONS	Tameside VC
MEN'S STUDENT CUP CHAMPIONS	Northumbria University
WOMEN'S STUDENT CUP CHAMPIONS	Northumbria University
MEN'S BEACH NATIONAL CHAMPIONS	Tom Lord and Robin Miedzybrodzki
WOMEN'S BEACH NATIONAL CHAMPIONS	Denise Austin and Mel Coutts
MEN'S BEACH STUDENT CUP CHAMPIONS	Renato Silva and Andreas Savvidis
WOMEN'S BEACH STUDENT CUP CHAMPIONS	Magda Ropiak and Luca Toth
BEACH STUDENT CUP MIXED 4S CHAMPIONS	Aston Power Rangers
SITTING VOLLEYBALL GRAND PRIX CHAMPIONS	Ashcombe Surrey Gators



## EXCEL IN ALL AREAS OF THE PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY FOR INDOOR BEACH AND SITTING VOLLEYBALL

### PERFORMANCE

2012 HAS BEEN A CHALLENGING YEAR AS PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMES CONTINUE TO EVOLVE. NEVERTHELESS, VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND CURRENTLY SUPPORTS MORE THAN 190 PLAYERS IN TALENT PATHWAYS FOR BEACH AND INDOOR VOLLEYBALL WITH PROGRESSION TO PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTS REMAINING A KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE TALENT PATHWAY THROUGHOUT THE NEXT CYCLE. THE ANNUAL GOVERNMENT SURVEY OF EXCEL INITIATIVES RATED CURRENT PLAYER SATISFACTION AT OVER 80%, THE HIGHEST SCORE ACROSS VOLLEYBALL.

#### CADET PROGRAMME – NATIONAL & DIVISIONAL

Divisional Cadet programmes continued to operate throughout 2012, linking participation volleyball to the National Cadet programme, preparing for the competitive outlet of the Sainsbury's School Games in September 2013. The distinct National Cadet programmes have continued successfully developing 32 talented young players. International competition for the National programmes has been limited however they look forward to an exciting 2013 with the National Volleyball Centre hosting the NEVZA U17 tournament in which both squads will compete in front of a home crowd.

#### JUNIOR NATIONAL PROGRAMME – INDOOR & BEACH

Building on the successes of the National Academy at Loughborough College, daily training opportunities at Junior levels have increased to include a network of six Satellite Academies, delivering to 72 players.

Members of these Academies featured highly in National selections for the European Championships, and performed well against some challenging opposition. The girls also took part in the NEVZA competition, finishing in an impressive fourth position.

The junior boys had a monumental experience at the Brazilian School Games, with the team narrowly missing out on a quarter final place. Beach Volleyball also had representation at the event, with the male pairing winning a match against their Brazilian opposition.

#### SENIOR NATIONAL PROGRAMME – INDOOR & BEACH

Volleyball England continued to deliver its full time Senior National Development Programmes with partners Sheffield Hallam University and monthly sessions with a wider training group. Both Men's and Women's teams represented at the Novotel Cup. Despite a gallant effort the women were unable to reproduce their winning form of the previous year finishing third, whilst the men improved on their previous performance to also finish third. The Senior Beach Volleyball programme, with partners Bournemouth University, supported eight TASS funded players.



#### NATIONAL ACADEMY PLAYERS

Iain McKellar  
Paige Nelmes  
Hannah Carey  
Alex Jenkins  
Rupert Scott  
Sam Shenton  
Jermaine Miles  
Chris Ashton  
Lauren Joyce  
Jodie Amor  
Teme Samuels  
Alex Hutchinson  
Leon Davis-Chambers

## 2012 SAINSBURY'S SCHOOL GAMES

In May 72 athletes from the Cadet performance programme were selected to represent their division; England North, England Central or England South, in the inaugural Level 4 School Games. The Games emulates the Olympic and Paralympic values throughout and brings together all four home nations as the pinnacle of each respective talent programme for U16 Girls and U17 Boys. Hosted in a London 2012 venue, ExCel provided a unique experience for this select group of talented athletes to compete in an international environment with the athlete support services that would be used by Olympic and Paralympic athletes. England demonstrated the strength and depth of the talent throughout the squads by finishing in the top four in both categories and securing all-England finals across both genders.

### FINAL STANDINGS:

#### U16 GIRLS

1st England Central  
2nd England North  
3rd Scotland West  
4th England South  
5th Scotland East  
6th Northern Ireland  
7th Wales

#### U17 BOYS

1st England Central  
2nd England South  
2rd England North  
4th Scotland West  
5th Northern Ireland  
6th Scotland East  
7th Wales

## THE NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL CENTRE KETTERING

The National Volleyball Centre remains the performance base for all National programmes. Activity has continued and developed with residential training camps taking place for talent programmes, a full range of domestic competitions and a number of conferences, training courses and development activities. With the completion of the beach courts the National Volleyball Centre's Volleyball CV has developed seeing combined indoor and beach national camps taking place in the summer months. The Centre also confirmed its first major Junior International Volleyball Competition over the coming 3 years, hosting the NEVZA u17 championships, an exciting and developing, competitive youth outlet.



## EXPLOIT MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES AND RAISE THE PROFILE OF VOLLEYBALL

### MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT IS TO SUPPORT VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND'S KEY PROGRAMMES, UTILISING A VARIETY OF SOLUTIONS INCLUDING PRINT AND DIGITAL MEDIA, ONLINE AND DIRECT SUPPORT.

We had a very busy summer during and in the build up to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, dealing with many enquiries from the press and media, both here and overseas.

The department worked very closely with the GB Sitting Teams to promote their involvement in the Games and to raise the profile of the sport during this time.

Media interest was at an all time high as we went into the games, with a media day in Loughborough attracting TV crews from CNN, NBC, BBC and Channel 4 and most of the national print press.

In quarter 4 our contract with Promote PR came to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work and dedication over the last year, the decision whether to renew a contract with a PR company or to bring the function in house will be made following the outcomes of the Portas review.

We continue to publish several publications including 3 Touch, E-news and Inside View, in addition to this we have published digital media versions of the Volley123 packs and Level 1 Tutor resources.

In April, we successfully provided live streaming of both the National Cup Finals and Super 8's Finals, we are very grateful to all at 24/7tv for their assistance with this.

The service was provided free of charge and proved very popular with spectators in addition to the sell out crowd at Kettering.

Volleyball England's social media presence continues to increase. At the end of the financial year we had 4214 Facebook likes and 4444 Twitter followers. Over 57,000 people had viewed our videos on YouTube and the website has an average of 85,295 unique visits per month.

Our video work continues to be successful with films made for, our final plan submission to Sport England, Partnerships in the South West and Beach Volleyball promotion.

We continue to develop our relationship with the Disabled Photographers Society and we are extremely grateful for the assistance they provide to us in providing photographic coverage at many events

This year saw the first of a 3 year contract with Maritime Media to televise the Volleyball England Finals on Sky Sports. Maritime will cover the TV production costs of the tournament and will sell advertising space to cover this.



# EQUAL ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## SITTING VOLLEYBALL

### DEVELOPMENT

The Junior Sitting Volleyball Development Project ran from April to July to encourage more young people to experience sitting volleyball. Each of the sitting volleyball clubs submitted a development plan to receive some funding to deliver the programme. The majority of clubs wanted to train more coaches to support delivery now and in the future. The key outcomes of the programme included:-

- 9,131 young people engaged
- 1,732 of these participants were Special Education Needs (SEN)
- 38 had a physical impairment or disability

With the added effect of London 2012 Paralympic Games, the delivery included some of the British Sitting Volleyball players to encourage inspiration to the young people.

Post Paralympics has seen a dramatic increase in enquiries for sitting volleyball from a community and school perspective. Schools tend to be requesting resources to play sitting volleyball during PE as an inclusive activity. In addition, 12 counties have highlighted they will be running sitting volleyball in their county (level 3 School Games) competition. From a community perspective, five new clubs have expressed an interest in developing a sitting volleyball group.

### GRAND PRIX

This season saw London Lynx regain their Grand Prix title from Surrey Gators in a thrilling 5 set final at the National Volleyball Centre. With an array of British talent on show the match certainly gave a taste of what was to come for the Paralympic Games.

This season has seen 10 teams regularly competing in the Grand Prix including a Wild Card team from a Sainsburys Store in Devon. The number of players competing regularly is 126 of which 50% have a physical impairment or disability. This figure has risen steadily since 2009. The gender split is currently 73% and 27% for men and women, respectively.

### BRITISH SITTING VOLLEYBALL

This year has been a momentous year for British Sitting Volleyball by qualifying both teams through the Host Nation slots for the London 2012 Paralympic Games. The team were officially announced in June at City Hall in London. The team photo was taken in front of Tower Bridge with guest of honour The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

In June we completed the agreement with the University of Roehampton who supported the development of the first



daily training environment for sitting volleyball called Project Roehampton. To continue progressing, a full time residential preparation camp was delivered at Loughborough College from July to mid August. During this period the women's team entered two European Open competitions to hone their match skills. As the Games drew closer, both teams managed to arrange matches with teams whilst they were in their holding camps. The men played Brazil and Rwanda whilst the women played Brazil and China.

Come Games time the players were ready to play and could not wait to enter the stadium in front of a capacity home crowd. All of the preliminary round matches for ParalympicsGB were watched by approximately 6,000 noisy fans. Both teams produced credible performances with the men reaching the Quarter Finals and finishing in a respectable 8th as the women's draw involved less teams GBR produced gutsy performance also finishing in 8th position overall.

Post Games Volleyball England and BVF presented to UK Sport funding panel for support for the Rio 2016 cycle. Despite a robust and informative proposal UK Sport did not deem the sport to have a medal prospect in Rio and, therefore, decided not to fund the programme. The resilience of the players and support teams has been testament to the sport over the last few years and they pulled together to find solutions to move forwards. There are a number of new partners we are in discussions with to potentially fund the GB programme going forward.

Throughout the development of the British sitting programme Help for Heroes has been a prominent partner. They continually enter a mixed team into the Grand Prix each year which has enabled some of their players to enter GB training. Overall, seven players from Help for Heroes were selected to represent ParalympicsGB of which three were with sitting volleyball. Post Games more regular sitting volleyball sessions have started at other recovery centres around the country which will allow our relationship develop further with military partners.

### VOLUNTEERS

The British programme would not have operated without a large number of people that volunteered a vast amount of time and expertise to support the sitting programme this year. The support teams and players took large amount of leave from work and family commitments to pursue their Paralympic ambitions. Glynn Archibold and Dee Wauchope represented Great Britain in the referee delegation for the Paralympic Games. They were supported on court by a large number of Officials and NTO's who together produced performances that gave credibility to the domestic scene.

Gordon Neale OBE and Julie Rogers, who was one of youngest athletes in ParalympicsGB, carried the Olympic Torch through their home towns. Tom Middleton carried the Paralympic Flame during the mass overnight procession from Stoke Mandeville to the Olympic Stadium.

Overall the Games Makers in their distinctive uniforms were

one of the memories taken from both the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The duties they took truly gave a positive representation of the valuable volunteers that support volleyball in England.



## GOVERNANCE

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND CONTINUES TO STRIVE IN ACHIEVING BEST PRACTICE FOR THE GOVERNANCE OF THE SPORT. VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND WAS AGAIN AWARDED WITH A GREEN SELF-ASSURANCE RATING FOR 2012/13 BY SPORT ENGLAND FOR ITS GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK.

At the AGM in June 2012 the Volleyball England membership agreed with the proposals to dissolve the Beach Commission and establish a Beach Volleyball Advisory Group to drive forward the beach volleyball discipline of the sport across all areas of the organisation.

Sport England set out in their 'Investment Guidance' document their key criteria for effective governance; these criteria form the governance element of the investment principles for 2013-17 Sport England funding. Volleyball England was awarded with an amber rating which outlines that Volleyball England does not yet meet Sport England's revised criteria for effective governance but has adequate plans in place to do so by October 2014. The existing finance and internal control requirements are either met or adequate plans are in place to meet them.

To meet the revised criteria Volleyball England has established a Board and Governance action plan 2012-17. Volleyball England held an EGM in November 2012 and part of this was to implement recommendations from the 2012-17 Board and Governance action plan where changes to the Articles of Association were required. At the EGM the membership confirmed that the Articles of Association would be changed to allow for three independent non-executive directors on the board and to also limit the term of office for all elected directors to a maximum of eight years.



## WELFARE

THE WELFARE AND WELL-BEING OF ALL PARTICIPANTS IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND. SAFE RECRUITMENT PRACTICE, INCLUDING CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS THROUGH THE DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (FORMALLY CRB), CONTINUES TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND SAFEGUARDING GUIDANCE. VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT IS PRODUCED FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALL VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS WHO COME INTO CONTACT WITH CHILDREN INCLUDING ANY EVENT ORGANISED BY OR HELD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF AND/OR ANY OTHER BODY AFFILIATED, OR REPRESENTATIVE OF VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND.

This is the current expectations and guidance that all members of the volleyball community to adhere to. An updated policy renamed Safeguarding & Protecting Young People Policy and Good Practice Guidance has been written and will be published for next season in line with the upcoming changes from government around criminal record checks. The new policy is ready to roll out alongside a new training course for club-level safeguarding officers called 'Time to Listen', this is planned for the beginning of the new season in line with government timelines on confirmed details of the new criminal records checking process.

## EQUITY POLICY

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND CONTINUES TO DRIVE FORWARDS EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WITHIN THE SPORT. THE NEED TO FOCUS ON GROUPS SPECIFICALLY IN RELATION TO REPRESENTATION THROUGH THE SPORT HAS BEEN DRIVEN BY WIDER ADVERTISING AND TARGETING FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO THE SPORT, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO THE NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD. VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND REMAINS FOCUSED ON THE KEY ACTIONS FROM THE 2012-17 EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ACTION PLAN AS FOLLOWS:

**Action 1:** Attention to equality, diversity and inclusion are an integral part of delivering on our programmes.

**Action 2:** There is an increase in the number of women, disabled people and black and minority ethnic people participating, volunteering and contributing to the governance of the sport (officials, leadership and governance).

**Action 3:** The Board's composition is reflective of the diversity of our players.

**Action 4:** Our board, managers, staff and volunteers have an understanding of equality and diversity that helps them to deliver an inclusive approach to their work.

**Action 5:** All Board members, managers, staff and senior volunteers are clear about their roles and responsibilities for promoting equality, diversity and inclusion.

**Action 6:** Our channels of communication reach the communities we serve as well as partners and encourage feedback, celebrate successes and inform our progress on delivering fairness in all that we do.

**Action 7:** Our policies and procedures take every opportunity to promote equality and eliminate discrimination.

**Action 8:** Positive Action is taken where appropriate and is within the law.

**Action 9:** Our equality, diversity and inclusion decisions are based on robust evidence.



# REGIONAL COMMISSION REPORTS

THE COMMISSION HAS CONTINUED TO WORK THROUGH THE YEAR, DISCUSSING THE WHOLE SPORT PLAN AND LOOKING TO DEVELOPMENTS TO HELP DELIVER.

THE REPORTS HIGHLIGHT THE SUCCESSES THEY HAVE ACHIEVED IN PROVIDING LEADERSHIP LOCALLY AND INCREASING COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES AT LOCAL LEVEL. THE REPORTS HIGHLIGHT THE CHALLENGES AND ALSO THE GOOD PRACTICE IN ONE REGION THAT ANOTHER REGION CAN USE TO RESOLVE CHALLENGES.

## EASTERN VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION

The Eastern Volleyball Federation consists of six Counties and operates on a Region-lite basis where the individual Counties support their own development plans.

### BEDFORDSHIRE

There is currently no County Association and the only Club that plays regularly is GNG Bedford where the Men won this seasons Regional One Day Tournament Series.

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE

The Cambridge Volleyball Association has been able to run both a Women's and a men's county league for the 2011-13 seasons. The women's league has been reduced to three teams (from five) but they have been happy to play a limited number of matches and have augmented their season by entering the regional competitions organized by Keith Nicholls at UEA. The men's league lost two teams from the 2011-12 season, both of which were struggling to organize their members and fulfill their league commitments. The remaining eight teams are spread geographically from Cambridge to Spalding and from HMP Stocken to Newmarket and run a split north/south conference system to keep travel to a minimum. The 2012-13 fixtures are running smoothly and the CVA has instigated a web-based reporting system for results and fixtures to allow information and updates to be more readily accessible to club members.

The CVA also runs a knockout competition each season in the form of Spring Cup and Plate events with a finals day, and also a one day tournament (The Walton Shield) for member teams at the end of the season, combined with a season trophy presentation. These competitions are well supported and the 2011-12 Plate Final was played behind bars at HMP Stocken, who laid on catering after the match, and the Cup Final was sponsored by a local sports centre with Peterborough Harriers running a "come and try it" session for juniors before the match.

### ESSEX

The Essex committee has undergone a major change this season with a number of prominent members stepping down. This has led to a young and keen committee wanting to make their mark. New ideas and new formats have been welcomed.

This season has seen a number of new developments in the county. A new website was launched which is updated on regular basis with news and results, it currently receives an average of 300 hits each month and continues to slowly rise. The leagues and player registrations are now managed on-line via leaguerepublic.com, this has enabled us to actually monitor our player numbers, this season there are 233 registered players. The use of this system has so far received positive feedback.

There are now 3 divisions in the county with 2 new teams this year, taking it to 15 teams in the county. Although these are male leagues females are allowed to play and there are a number of teams which enter mixed teams.

This year we tried a new 4v4 tournament format for the women instead of running a league. Eight teams entered and it was a resounding success, further follow up sessions are planned.

6 Teams from 3 Clubs represented the County in the national league, Tendring in Div 1(M) and Div 2S(W), Brentwood Div 2N, 2S and 3S(M) with Essex Trinity Div 3S(W).

In the league the Brentwood Boswells Academy side finished the league undefeated.

In the National Cup competitions, Essex Trinity reached the Shield quarter finals and Tendring (W) made it through to the Shield Final.

The county again put in some strong performances in the National Junior competitions. Three clubs from the county entered various age groups, Boswells, Tendring and Brentwood with the first two making the Last 8 in a number of categories and Boswells reaching the finals of both the U18 Men and Women.

A level 1 Coaching Course and a Level 4 Referees are both scheduled for later in the year.

Financially the county is healthy and is trying to develop ways to utilize this position to develop the sport. Looking forward the county is in a strong position to expand over the next 2 years based on the number of recreational sessions being run and the new ideas/formats being used.

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### HERTFORDSHIRE

This year has seen a year of consolidation, 13 Men's Teams have battled it out in two Divisions while 7 Teams have taken part in the Women's League with a further 6 Teams participating in our Mixed league.

At national level Herts VC have had a good season in the Women's Division 2 North. While Danes Watford finished mid table in the Men's Division 1.

At Junior level VK Barnet entered the Under 16's Boys national competition, but just failed to progress through to the second round.

The Association is very grateful for the support given by the Rudolf Steiner School in Kings Langley where Junior Volleyball sessions are held every Saturday morning from September until June.

### NORFOLK

Norfolk Volleyball Association has grown considerably in the last year. It has continued to support both a Men's and Mixed leagues playing at the UEA Sportspark. And for the first time there have been sufficient Teams to support it's own Women's league. There is also a development league run three times a year by the association and various tournaments through the season.

At national level the County supports two National League Teams, while the UEA Sportspark is home to the Eastern Region Sunday tournaments organised by Keith Nicholls. At Junior level Tomasz Morawski continues to develop Squads who have achieved more success this year and finally, on the Beach then Great Yarmouth played host to the first of the seasons Volleyball England Beach Tour events. The future of volleyball in Norfolk is looking bright.

### SUFFOLK

Suffolk continues to have four community clubs; this has been stable for over five years. Newmarket are primarily a competitive men's club enjoying competing in the National League, Cambridgeshire League and Cup and Suffolk Cup. Ipswich enjoy the Eastern Region Series (Men's and Women's) and Suffolk Handicap Series and compete in the Suffolk Cup. They actively develop beginners. Historically a competitive men's club, Stowmarket VC enjoy the Suffolk Cup and Essex League and Cup and this season launched open Sportivate / Go-Spike and junior sessions. Stow Stingers are mainly a social club with many members enjoying training but not particularly interested in competition.

The Association has been successful in securing over £2,000 worth of funding for the development of volleyball in areas in which there are currently no community clubs and are currently waiting on the outcome of Sport England grant for a further £10,000. This would then allow us to target Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill and North-East Ipswich and help establish three new community clubs and a series of 4-a-side tournaments for novices.

Stowmarket's Go-Spike indoor sessions have been successful in large part due to being held in a popular leisure centre who helped with the promotion of the sessions. Despite the high costs, wherever possible we would encourage people starting similar sessions to select similar venues rather than school halls which are out of view to the general public; despite being in Sunday 6-7pm "dead time", the Stowmarket sessions are now self-sustaining thanks to this visible location.

With no development coach in the county, junior development in Suffolk mainly relies on a few dedicated teachers. A Mini Volley coaching course for teachers was held in October and attended by twenty teachers. An inter-school tournament is planned for the summer.

Paul Bohannon,  
Eastern Volleyball Federation

## LONDON REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION & PARALYMPICS

London saw the most of the 2012 Olympics providing Games Makers, many of the National Technical Officials for volleyball and also has received the largest amount of the Legacy.

This is great but not without cost. We had to train Officials, and have to spend considerable effort on plans to deliver volleyball for the Legacy. The number of aspiring participants has also swamped many clubs as well as other sports being equally affected and placing even greater demand on hall space to play volleyball in the Capital.

We have recruited 2 of the Games Makers to our volunteer ranks, and still need more.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE AND CUP

In the Super 8 Divisions London has again performed well with 3 London Men's teams occupying places 2-4 in the Men's division and places 2,4 & 5 in Women's Super 8. The Men's

Division 1 teams also performed well with Docklands finishing 2nd, and other positions yet to be decided. The 2 Women's Division 2 side finished mid-table.

With such a major Super 8 presence we have been encouraging development of presentation of the Super 8 games, improving the sports centres to be attractive to spectators and hopefully the media.

In the KO Cup another London based non-National League side Flaming 6 Aces has reach the Finals weekend in the Men's Shield and Malory Eagles have a team playing in the Women's Final.

The presence of a Regional League team at the Finals demonstrates the strength of the Regional League and its ability to give good players quick access to the standards of play they desire which elsewhere are only available via the National League.

#### LOCAL LEAGUE

The London League will not finish until after this report is written, but with 5 Divisions for Men and now 4 divisions for Women it is still going strong, with additional interest for next season already being registered.

#### DEVELOPMENT

The large number of new players attracted by the Olympic media coverage is pressing for the re-introduction of a recreational Foundation League for next season.

We are working with major partners to develop indoor legacy for volleyball, with a possibility of there being 3 venues next season with regular volleyball participation throughout the week. The Sobell Centre – Olympic training venue - is already our regular meeting place, and we expect to take up office space there in the new season once the Legacy developments are complete. We are talking to the Queen Elizabeth Park operator GLL about volleyball in the Copper Box and will continue with 4 clubs, providing 15 teams playing matches at Bethnal Green.

Other developments include working with partners for new build of Sports Centres, and Beach facilities.

With so much growth in London, we need an increase in personnel, a problem which is hard to solve in these difficult times, but efforts are underway to recruit more people.

#### JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

A small junior league was started this season, with further plans to bring the Junior teams together for regular competition. The London School Games, a 'tier 3' competition has attracted 28 boys teams and 22 girls teams. Some 200+ U15s playing in the UEL Docklands Campus SportsDock. Many more had participated in the Borough run qualifying rounds.

#### TOURNAMENTS

Gary Beckford's All Nations tournament is continuing, but at the larger venue of SCORE in Leyton, as it was out growing Bethnal Green.

Discussions are starting to organise tournaments of some of the green spaces in outer London following invitations from the owners.

#### BEACH

This is going to be a major challenge over the summer with now 19 courts available in London.

Planning is underway for courses for Officials and we are working on Competitions and recreational development at these centres.

Charlie Orton, Chairman  
London Volleyball Association

### NORTH EAST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

This season has been the most successful one for the region with regard to higher performance competition. Adequate consolidation continues at lower levels, which is something that the newly reformed executive will be focussing on.

Following the success at the Regional Champions Trophy, new National League teams were formed at Sunderland, with both men and women likely to gain promotion in their first season. In addition to this, young female squads at North Riding Eagles and Haughton, have also produced some encouraging performances.

Clearly though the stand out performers in the North East this season are Team Northumbria, whose men and women currently remain unbeaten in Super 8's and Cup. This success is also mirrored by the men's second team.

The Local Leagues continue, with Northern Counties Ladies, men's Local Divisions 1, 2 and Tees Valley men, running smoothly. The Men's Premier league; this campaign has been supplemented by a women's equivalent to allow more women from the South of the region, to compete at a higher level. In some top matches, neutral referees have been appointed for the first time in several years.

The newly formed Academies for boys and girls have now been run 3 times and are beginning to take shape, with the assistance of GB player, Jen Taylor.

The influence of the Premier League 4 Sport, in Newcastle, Sunderland and Middlesbrough, is still in evidence, along with several schools competitions taking place throughout the year – weather permitting.

The usual NE Tournaments: Ian Berry (indoor), Tynemouth Beach, Redcar Beach, and White Rose (Grass), all went ahead as planned.

Following the success of the Olympics, the expected interest in our sport has failed to manifest itself in the NE. This may be no bad thing considering clubs struggle to fund and source additional court hire.

### SOUTH EAST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

#### COUNTY LEAGUES

County leagues continue to flourish in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire There are 81 Volleyball England registered clubs in the South East in 2013.

#### PERFORMANCE

24 teams from the South East play in the National League making approximately 21% of the competition. Super 8 team Ashcombe Dorking retain their place in the top tier of National League Volleyball for 2013 and SGTV Solent are in the play offs to keep their Super 8 place. Portsmouth will be dropping down to Division 1. Reading and South Hants women play in Division 1 and will be joined by Surrey Orcas as winners of Division 2 South. In Division 2 men South, 5 teams from the South East make up the 10 team league and a further 8 teams are playing in the men and womens Division 3 competitions. 4 more teams have applied to enter the National League for the 2013-14 season.

#### JUNIORS

The junior South East squads have been in regularly monthly training from September 2012 at The Ashcombe Volleyball Centre. Over 100 junior players have attended the monthly 5 hour training sessions for the 4 squads. There are currently still no paid volleyball Community coaches or Development coaches working in the South East, with all junior and development work being done by volunteer coaches in clubs and at region.

#### RECREATIONAL

Park and Beach volleyball is proving a popular recreational activity in the South East. Despite the poor weather we have had in the past few years more players are attracted to playing recreational summer volleyball.

#### TOURNAMENTS

The LPV Tournament for the South East is The Ashcombe Volleyball Tournament that attracts around 100 teams, 1,000 players and their supporters to Surrey. Other tournaments include Guildford, East Hants and Newbury.

#### OFFICIALS

The South East has 113 registered coaches and 120 registered referees. Several Level 1 and 2 Coaching Courses and Grade 4 Referees courses are planned or were held in the South East.

#### VOLLEY 123 AND AWARDS

Newbury Volleyball Club and Ashcombe Volleyball Club have been shortlisted for the Volleyball England Club of the Year Award 2013. The South East region boasts three of the four nationwide Volley 3 clubs, Newbury, Ashcombe and Portsmouth Volleyball Clubs.

#### BEACH

The beach courts at Margate are scheduled to host the Volleyball England Beach Tour Finals in August 2013. The Yellowwave Beach Volleyball Courts continue to attract beach volleyball players throughout the year. Permanent beach courts

at Southsea, Worthing, Horsham continue to flourish and attract more players to play volleyball in the region.

Freda Bussey, South East Region Volleyball Association

### SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

#### AFFILIATIONS

We currently have 76 clubs registered, 3 up on last year. Coach registrations are up from 94 to 97, referee registrations are up from 57 to 76. There has therefore been slight growth, with strong growth in referee registrations.

#### LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Our Local Associations – Bristol, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Exeter, Cornwall, Volleyball Dorset report regularly in writing to SWVA at Executive Meetings and AGM. The areas report a mixture of stability / slight growth / slight contraction - so again a fairly stable situation. Good news has been the "official" establishment of the Bristol and West Association.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COACHES

We have been grateful for the continued funding for the two posts, but very concerned that the funding has now ceased for the North Devon post. There has been excellent work has in North Devon (and more widely across schools in Devon). Our fear is that much of this impetus will be lost with the post.

#### COMPETITIONS

Three teams could still win the SW Mens League Mens: Exeter Storm, City of Bristol and Wessex (12 teams in the league) – two have applied for NVL. In the Womens League the position is much clearer – with Plymouth Marjons being clear winners (7 teams in the league). The SW Championships will run over two days in Plymouth in May and we expect to have 14 teams in each section (men / women)- 150 matches over two days. The Veterans Tournament in November produced a healthy entry of 11 teams - congratulations to winners City of Bristol.

#### JUNIOR

In junior competitions, the SW Mini Volleyball Grand Prix took place through the winter over four events - with 65 different teams playing some part in the U11 to U15 age group competitions. Strength in depth was demonstrated by the fact that six different clubs / schools collected trophies across the eight divisions.

The SW Junior Squads have continued with a full programme of training, subsidised by SWVA. We are very concerned to hear that there is a potential threat to the funding of the Inter Regional Competition. We would urge the national body to continue to support this programme.

#### BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The 2012 SW Junior Beach Tour was very successful with events across the region. Dates have been agreed for the coming beach season. We would also like to add an adult version of the beach tour.

## COACHING

In common with other regions we find that, unfortunately, courses get cancelled due to lack of candidates. We were pleased to welcome Kevin Tann to our last meeting to discuss how to overcome this problem and have begun to plan for a Coaches Seminar in October and a level 2 Coaches Award course in October / November.

## GENERAL

I am really grateful to all those who give up so much time to make volleyball in the SW such a success, there is so much excellent work going on.

Ron Richards, Secretary, South West Volleyball Association

## WEST MIDLANDS VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

### EXECUTIVE

The West Midlands executive remains strong and stable with a full complement of serving officers who show true dedication to the cause. Two long standing members of the WMVA over many years Steve Evans and Nick Shaffrey were recognised at the Volleyball England annual awards for their outstanding contribution to volleyball over many years.

### REGIONAL LEAGUES

Competition in the WMVA Regional leagues remains strong – indeed the quality of play is stronger than it has been in many years with many teams in Division 1 probably capable of making a mark at NVL Div3 level if they so chose.

The high quality of the top regional teams was also much in evidence at the WMVA Cup finals. Three new teams have made a welcome entry to the men's divisions which now comprise 27 teams in 3 divisions. The ladies also added an extra team and comprise 18 teams in 2 divisions.

The 2012 regional cup finals were even bigger and better than before and for the first time, we were able to showcase our junior players by way of a mini tournament mid-way through the cup final programme allowing both junior and senior players to watch each other. This is an experiment that will certainly be continued into 2013.

The exceptional work undertaken in the north of the region by Newcastle Staffs VC and Community Development Coach Ant Viggers has also resulted in the dormant North staffs Local league being reconstituted which is great news.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

At the time of writing, the NVL was incomplete but the women were leading the way in flying the West Midlands flag. In Division 1 Newcastle Staffs VC are chasing the title and this is replicated by South Birmingham VC in Div 2 North and both Black Country Redhill Tigers and Birmingham 1 in Div 3 West.

The men are finding it more difficult, but the various teams are still holding their own with Coventry and Warwick Riga leading the way with a mid table Super 8 position.

In the Cup and Shield Riga contest a men's cup semi final whilst both Riga women and Birmingham women are through to the Shield semi finals.

### JUNIORS

The junior team in the West Midlands continue to do sterling work and junior development is probably stronger and covering a wider geographical area than ever before. To some degree the region has compromised its ability to attain its true potential in some of the competitions by choosing not to select players who are competing in the School games but working with the next tier of players and giving them the opportunity to test themselves against top level competition. The highlight has been the success of the Under 16 girls where Black Country have reached the national finals. The local JUVOTO regular competition is also developing well with large and increasing numbers attending the regular tournaments.

The Let's Play Volleyball was once again expertly organised at Madeley thanks by Will Roberts and the NSVC team.

### TOURNAMENTS

Sandwell Volleyball Tournament struggled to achieve former glories, but there is a determination to improve year on year with 2012 to be followed by another event in 2013.

In conclusion, the WMVA continues to play to its strengths in developing increasing numbers of quality young players and in developing bigger and better competitions. In an exceptional development, two of the three finalist in the Club of the Year awards for the current season are also from the region with regular nominee and previous winner Newcastle Staffs VC joined by 30 year old "newbie" Tamworth Spartans Volleyball Club. Good luck to them both!

Bryan Youlden, Chairman West Midlands Volleyball Association

## YORKSHIRE REGION

What an Olympic and Paralympic year! The Yorkshire-born Team GB players – Ben Pipes and Kieran O'Malley – did the country proud. Not to mention the many other Yorkshire volunteers and Games Makers, from floor wipers to court managers. The Olympic and Paralympic Games pushed volleyball into the spotlight to the wider public. The challenge now is how to continue after the highs of London 2012.

### NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Full results are detailed elsewhere, but the region's NVL teams had successful years, none setting the world alight, but all avoiding the dreaded relegation zone.

### YORKSHIRE COMPETITIONS

The Men's Yorkshire Premier League (10 teams) has been one of the most competitive for years, with the top three teams tied on the same points score. Winners by sets difference were Hawks of Cleckheaton. The Women's Yorkshire Premier League (9 teams) was won by Harrogate VC. The Yorkshire Finals Day on 21 April saw 6 competitions decided - Men's Yorkshire Cup (DNA Volley), Women's Yorkshire Cup

(Boathouse), Men's Plate (Leeds VC), Women's Plate (North Riding Eagles), Men's Shield (Garforth) and Women's Shield (York VC).

Local Leagues:

Yorkshire Women's Division 1 (4 teams) - York Zumbas

Hull and East Yorkshire League (8 teams) - Beverley GLBs

West Yorkshire League (6 teams) - Huddersfield University

A dedicated junior Lets Play Volleyball Festival was run by Harrogate VC at the end of June 2012.

The North Yorkshire Level 3 School Games beach volleyball competition was held in Scarborough in June 2012, on the day of the Olympic Torch Relay. The same format has been running through the current year with the final on the beach in June 2013.

### SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Hull & East Yorkshire ran their weekly 2-a-side league. Many clubs promoted the Go Spike campaign, with weekly sessions in local parks. There were the usual successful outdoor tournaments on grass, in Ilkley, Harrogate, Cleckheaton and York. The ever successful Bridlington Mixed Beach Tournament was held in July and a separate 2-a-side beach tournament in Bridlington in August.

Mike Turner – Yorkshire Volleyball Association

## EAST MIDLANDS VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

### EXECUTIVE

The East Midlands AGM once again had an excellent turn out with over 30 people in attendance. We also held the second East Midlands regional presentation evening with awards going to some great volunteers, supporting all areas of development across the region.

### COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

The 5 counties in the East Midlands continue to develop; all now have competitions as part of the first steps into grassroots volleyball. Funding from Sport England has supported the club, coach and competition development of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire have well established leagues for both men and women with teams progressing into the regional and national leagues as part of the player pathway.

### REGIONAL LEAGUES

Entries in the East Midlands Regional League continue to grow with 7 women's teams and 12 men's teams taking part. With a few matches left it looks like Ashfield Vipers will be the ladies league winners and Division 1 Men's winners will be Melton who have a perfect record this season -played 10 and won 10. In men's Division 2 Worksop & Loughborough Students are fighting it out for the top spot.

### JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

The two regional CDCs have been working in schools through Northants and Leicestershire to increase opportunities for young people to play Volleyball. In first year of deployment the CDC delivered volleyball in over 100 schools with over 4000 children taking part in weekly sessions; this led to the establishment of after school clubs, with 100's young people playing in those clubs.

Young Leaders – 86 young leaders trained as Volleyball England Young Leaders Officials, referees and event organisers. 43 of these are regular volunteering, mainly in the after school clubs but some have made the transition into local clubs

### SCHOOL GAMES

Volleyball has been delivered as part of the Summer School Games in every county across the region with both indoor and sitting events being delivered.

The EMVA continue to support the Regional Talent Development Programme (RTDP) it has become a vital part of our junior development programmes and the region continue to fund the monthly training session for all teams. These sessions are designed to complement weekly training in their clubs and prepare them to represent the East Midlands at the Volleyball England Inter Regional.

This year saw the best ever results for the East Midlands junior teams at the Inter Regional Championships with the U14 girls finishing 2nd and 3rd, the U16 Girls 7th, the U15 Boys 5th and the U17 Boys finishing top in their age group. Congratulations to all the players, coaches and managers of the junior teams for all their hard work and dedication.

The East Midlands 'Let's Play Volleyball Festival' was hosted at Hermitage Leisure Centre, Leicestershire, supported by the regional CDCs Gerard Van Zwieten and Alex Hajigeorgieva and their Young Leaders and Young Officials. The day provided opportunities for players of all abilities aged 5-15 years old, to play both outdoor and sitting volleyball. Teams from schools, change4life clubs or junior clubs from across the East Midlands came together to experience a fun-focused competitive environment.

### SITTING VOLLEYBALL

The two East Midland sitting volleyball teams made it through to the semi finals of the Sitting Grand Prix- Loughborough Lions finishing 3rd and Lincoln Imps 4th, another sitting volleyball team is also being developed out of Darkstar in Derbyshire.

### GO SPIKE

'Go Spike' events took place all over the region during the May 'Big Go Spike Weekend' with high profile events taking place in Loughborough, Derby, Kettering, Lincoln, Spalding, Skegness and Wollaton Park Nottingham, thanks to all the volunteers who supported these events to raise the profile of volleyball across the region.

## BEACH

A round of the VE Beach Tour took place at Skegness. Over 6000 spectators turned up over two days of competition to watch some of England's best beach players' the VEBT ran alongside the SO Festival. EMVA would like to say a big thank you to East Lindsey District Council staff and all the volunteers who made the event a huge success.

Beach volleyball will continue to develop in the region now 3 new beach courts are located at both Loughborough University and at the National Volleyball Centre in Kettering. These are attracting experienced and recreational players. This summer Loughborough University will be hosting a Beach Volleyball league targeting organisations based on the campus.

## COURSES

The East Midlands hosted a Level 1 and Level 2 coaching course this season and a range of volunteer and leaders courses. The first referee's course in some time is being held in May at Nottingham University.

## WEBSITE

The East Midlands Volleyball Association website has been refreshed and now contains all the up-to-date information on activity within the region and provides direct links to the county association details and local clubs. Visit the site at [www.eastmidlandsvb.com](http://www.eastmidlandsvb.com) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

East Midlands Volleyball Association: [www.eastmidlandsvb.com](http://www.eastmidlandsvb.com)

Derbyshire: [www.eastmidlandsvb.com/derbyshire-volleyball-association](http://www.eastmidlandsvb.com/derbyshire-volleyball-association)

Leicestershire: [www.leicestershirevolleyball.net](http://www.leicestershirevolleyball.net)

Lincolnshire: [www.lincsvolley.org.uk](http://www.lincsvolley.org.uk)

Nottinghamshire: [www.eastmidlandsvb.com/nottinghamshire-volleyball-association](http://www.eastmidlandsvb.com/nottinghamshire-volleyball-association)

Northamptonshire: [www.northantsvolleyball.com](http://www.northantsvolleyball.com)

Janet Inman  
East Midlands Volleyball Association



Finance  
**JOHN BOUGHTON**

Having come out of this year's audit clearance meeting earlier today, I am once again pleased to tell you that the accounts for the Association for the year ended 31 March 2013 which follow this report have been passed without comment from our external auditors, BDO. This clean bill of health continues to confirm to the membership, and the other public bodies who use these accounts to measure our performance, that our financial processes and policies meet the standard that is required of public limited companies.

That's fine for as far as it goes – but how did we actually do? At the start of the year we budgeted for a small loss which was in keeping with our drive to hit our KPIs in the final year of the 2009-2013 Plan ahead of our submission for the 2013 -2017 period. The outturn was a slight deterioration to that, as unforeseen factors, particularly around the Olympics and Paralympics as well as legacy infrastructure caused us to deviate from our track. The situation is by no means serious but yet again highlights the ever precarious tightrope that we walk as an Association between profit and loss.

The success of our bid for funding for the next four years is tempered by the reduction in that funding. However it is far less than some other sports have experienced and is a tribute to Lisa and her team in presenting a robust, well-argued case for investment by Sport England as well as demonstrating that Volleyball England is a well governed organisation with a modern, adaptable approach to life in the NGB sector.

At this point, I must say my own personal thanks to Dirk George and Sandra Andrews for all their hard work in controlling, recording and reporting the finances of the Association so accurately and diligently. This time last year we were saying farewell to our previous Finance manager, Emma Fielding, with no immediate replacement in sight. To his credit, Dirk has stepped into the role and quickly proved himself to be an asset to the team, both in Finance and outside it. I look forward to working with him to make further improvements in our processes over this next year.

Life does not stand idly by and we must all adapt to change. Sometimes this is change which we cannot avoid. At other times it is change that we ourselves drive. At the start of this new four year cycle, Volleyball England is again being asked to change. To stretch itself. To grow once more. To develop new answers, new methods. But above all, we must all grow together, in partnership. I look forward to being part of that with you.

John Boughton  
Finance Director

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DIRECTORS' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013.

**Principal activities**

The principal activity of the company during the year was to promote and encourage in every way the game of volleyball and to act as the governing body for the sport in England.

**Directors**

The directors who served during the year were:

Dr D Anthony (resigned 28 May 2012)  
Mr B E Stalker  
Mrs J M A Inman  
Mr R Callicott  
Mr R E Dobell (resigned 10 November 2012)  
Mr K Nicholls (resigned 10 November 2012)  
Ms M Bogdanowicz  
Mr A J P Boughton  
Mr J J E Mutton (appointed 14 February 2013)  
Mr W Coyle (appointed 30 June 2012)

**Provision of information to auditor**

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- that director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing its report and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.

**Ms L J Wainwright**  
Secretary

Date: 12 June 2013

**DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION  
LIMITED**

We have audited the financial statements of English Volleyball Association Limited for the year ended 31 March 2013 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (Effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor**

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

**Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate).

**Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2013 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

**Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the directors' report.

**Roger Merchant** (Senior statutory auditor)  
for and behalf of PKF (UK) LLP, Statutory auditor  
Nottingham, UK

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

	Note	2013 £	2012 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>	1,2	<b>2,338,981</b>	2,694,835
Administrative expenses		<b>(2,346,761)</b>	(2,699,108)
<b>OPERATING LOSS</b>	3	<b>(7,780)</b>	(4,273)
Interest receivable and similar income		<b>3,629</b>	5,284
<b>(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>		<b>(4,151)</b>	1,011
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	4	<b>(725)</b>	(1,063)
<b>LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	9	<b>(4,876)</b>	(52)

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED  
(A company limited by guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER: 02023635

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2013

	Note	£	2013 £	£	2012 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5		121,952		157,477
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stocks		32,452		21,677	
Debtors	6	191,893		184,285	
Cash at bank and in hand		417,322		604,503	
		<u>641,667</u>		<u>810,465</u>	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	7	(341,614)		(541,061)	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>300,053</u>		269,404
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>422,005</u>		426,881
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>					
Profit and loss account	9		422,005		426,881
			<u>422,005</u>		<u>426,881</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 12 June 2013.

**Mr R Callicott**  
Director

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED  
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Turnover

Turnover comprises grant income applied in the year for projects delivered by the company. Grants received for projects not yet delivered are deferred into future accounting periods. Membership and subscriptions are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Motor vehicles	-	25% straight line
Fixtures & fittings	-	12.5-33% straight line
Office equipment	-	12.5-33% straight line
Commissions equipment	-	20-33.3% straight line

1.3 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are recognised on a straight line basis over the period until the date the rent is expected to be adjusted to the prevailing market rate.

1.4 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.5 Grants

Capital grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Profit and loss account over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Profit and loss account as the related expenditure is incurred.

2. TURNOVER

All turnover arose within the United Kingdom, including grant income from Sport England of £1,318,007 (2012 - £1,741,671). Sport England has awarded four further years of funding to the company beginning April 2013.

ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED  
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

3. OPERATING LOSS

The operating loss is stated after charging:

	2013 £	2012 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the company	87,217	87,462
Capital grant released	(23,273)	(22,932)
Auditor's remuneration	4,650	4,650
Operating lease charges - Rental	39,949	38,137
	<u>39,949</u>	<u>38,137</u>

During the year, no director received any emoluments (2012 - £NIL). The directors do receive reimbursement for their expenses.

4. TAXATION

	2013 £	2012 £
UK corporation tax charge for the year	725	1,063
	<u>725</u>	<u>1,063</u>

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures & fittings £	Office equipment £	Commissions equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 April 2012	9,170	24,428	218,690	146,187	398,475
Additions	-	-	5,659	46,033	51,692
At 31 March 2013	<u>9,170</u>	<u>24,428</u>	<u>224,349</u>	<u>192,220</u>	<u>450,167</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 April 2012	6,304	8,743	156,244	69,707	240,998
Charge for the year	2,293	3,630	43,098	38,196	87,217
At 31 March 2013	<u>8,597</u>	<u>12,373</u>	<u>199,342</u>	<u>107,903</u>	<u>328,215</u>
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 March 2013	<u>573</u>	<u>12,055</u>	<u>25,007</u>	<u>84,317</u>	<u>121,952</u>
At 31 March 2012	<u>2,866</u>	<u>15,685</u>	<u>62,446</u>	<u>76,480</u>	<u>157,477</u>

ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED  
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

6. DEBTORS

	2013 £	2012 £
Trade debtors	87,642	9,201
Other debtors	104,251	175,084
	<u>191,893</u>	<u>184,285</u>

7. CREDITORS:  
Amounts falling due within one year

	2013 £	2012 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	1
Trade creditors	155,475	144,312
Corporation tax	732	1,070
Social security and other taxes	31,618	30,242
Other creditors	153,789	365,436
	<u>341,614</u>	<u>541,061</u>

8. COMPANY STATUS

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

9. RESERVES

	Profit and loss account £
At 1 April 2012	426,881
Loss for the year	(4,876)
At 31 March 2013	<u>422,005</u>

10. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2013 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2013 £	2012 £
<b>Expiry date:</b>		
After more than 5 years	42,814	42,814
	<u>42,814</u>	<u>42,814</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Ms M Bogdanowicz a director of English Volleyball Association is both a shareholder and director of B-focused Limited. During the year purchases of £nil (2012 - £14,961) were made, no amounts were outstanding at the year end.

The total expenses reimbursed to directors during the year were £8,670 (2012 £6,831).

**Relationship with British Volleyball Federation**

The British Volleyball Federation (BVF) is the organising body for the Great Britain national teams leading up to the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

During the year £96,000 (2012-£120,000) was received from the BVF.

**What an olympic / paralympic year it was!!!  
You made it!!**

Thank you to all our superb volunteers and wonderful partners. Our thanks go to all staff, stakeholders and sponsors for another year of support, guidance and advice, and of course funding.

Thank you also to the staff and management at the National Volleyball Centre, Kettering.

May your support and commitment to Volleyball England continue.

**Thank you to the following funding partners**

- BCS
- BUCS
- CEV
- FIVB
- Loughborough College
- National Skills Academy – Sport and Active Leisure
- Premier League 4 Sport
- Pro-Active East London

- SportsAid
- Sport England
- Sportsmatch
- Sport and Recreation Alliance
- scUK
- TASS
- UK Sport
- Youth Sport Trust
- Portas Consulting
- Grant Thornton
- Generate
- Spiral Software
- Help for Heroes
- BPA
- Kettering Borough Council
- LOCOG
- WOVD
- ECVD
- Gerflor

**Volleyball England would like to thank the following for their help and support in the writing of the 2011-12 Annual Report:**

**Richard Callicott OBE**

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**Andrew Pink**

**Steve Evans**

**Will Roberts**

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**Brendan Osborne**

**Janet Inman**

**Keith Sowden**

**Ron Richards**

**Bryan Youlden**

**Mike Turner**

**Freda Bussey MBE**



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**Volleyball England Equality Statement:**

Volleyball England supports the principle of equal opportunities for all participants, members, representatives and employees whilst working for, or on behalf of the EVA. It opposes all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, colour, race, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, sexuality, HIV status, or unrelated criminal convictions, or disability.

[www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net)  
[www.volleyballengland.org](http://www.volleyballengland.org)