



VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND



VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND
ANNUAL REPORT 2014–15

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15

FOR SKILLS, FITNESS, TACTICS AND A GREAT SOCIAL
BUZZ...GET INTO VOLLEYBALL!

Volleyball is the only high energy, zero body contact, mixed team sport you can play indoors and outdoors – whatever your ability.
GET INTO VOLLEYBALL.

Please note: The term volleyball used within this document encompasses all three forms of the game, unless specifically mentioned otherwise.



***A Huge Thank You to all of our
Brilliant Volunteers***

RESULTS 2014-15

£920,000
New External Funding into the Sport

56

Satellite Clubs
(target of 25)

60 plus
go
spike!
Sessions
Running

17
New
Affiliated
Clubs

120
Further & Higher
Education Sessions

5th
Largest
Team
Sport
in
Colleges

151
Registered
Disabled
Players

100 plus
Junior/Cadets
in the
Talent Pathway

40
Young Seniors with
Development Plans

16 plus
Coaches Working in the
Talent Pathway

16
Sitting Volleyball Players
with Development Plans

PRESIDENT REPORT - GEOFF ALLEN

The last year has seen good progress in a number of key areas, most importantly the launch of our Strategy 2024. There is great research behind the full document, accessible on our website, and I believe that we can achieve our targets. They stretch us, but they are achievable.

On the performance side, we gained funding which enabled the formation of England Under 23 squads, the development of our performance coaches and improved talent identification. In addition, International Transfer Certificates fees, which discourage overseas players from playing in our top divisions, are being considerably reduced.

A challenge for volleyball, as for many sports since the Olympics and Paralympics, has been a fall in numbers playing, according to the Sport England Active People Survey. The Go Spike campaign, along with initiatives to get more youngsters and students participating, aims to buck this trend. Ultimately though, it is down to our clubs to attract new members, whether it's through indoor, beach, grass or sitting volleyball. Ian Poynton, Membership and Funding Officer, has helped several clubs gain grants for new member initiatives.

To help improve our profile, we are staging the London Legacy Volleyball Cup at the Copper Box Arena, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 12 and 13 September, featuring top Polish, German and French teams and our two leading men's and women's teams. This will be the first opportunity since 2012 to see premier class volleyball in England.

I would like to close by thanking our professional staff and particularly our volunteers, who work so hard to provide a service to players and to support and develop volleyball in many areas. One volunteer who deserves special recognition is Richard Harrison, who steps down after 15 years as President of Coaches Commission and several more as a member of the Commission.

Geoff Allen
President



CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT - LISA WAINWRIGHT



I am delighted with the significant progress we have made over the last year. The innovative launch of our new Strategy 2024 and the number of events we have delivered, some with very limited notice, have been extremely successful. The increased rigour, depth and quality of our talent programmes, underpinned by our

outstanding technical support through the FIVB / CEV Development Centre, Kettering have also been very effective. You will be able to read more of these achievements throughout this report.

Without doubt, the time and dedication which both the Board and our valued members invested in developing Strategy 2024 will prove invaluable as we now focus on delivering the strategic ambitions – getting more people playing, growing our talent and providing more investment through showcase events! It is indeed ambitious, but it is also visionary, creative and achievable if we continue to work as one team.

This great team effort was seen earlier this year with the whole variety of events we have hosted from CEV Beach Volleyball Continental Cup on 21-22 July, NEVZA U17's on 30 October - 2 November to the NEVZA Beach Championships on 5-7 December.

From a commercial perspective we strive to increase our financial resilience and I want to thank our partners for their continued support. Volleyball is growing! We estimate over 32,000 people now play weekly through our events, leagues and partners. We have smashed all but one of our targets with our key funding partner, Sport England, and again we thank them for their continued support.

However, I know I say this every year – but it is true – without the phenomenal support of our dedicated volunteers and staff, none of this would happen. Imagine that level of commitment across all sport. As a collective of 39 NGB's there are 1.9m volunteers, larger in number than the entire workforce of the National Health Service! All of us volunteering and working in sport know how much more it contributes to our society and I know volleyball will continue to offer opportunities for all to enjoy our fabulous sport.

It has been a bold year for volleyball in England and one of setting the scene for the future. I am excited for the coming year, particularly as we look towards the London Legacy Volleyball Cup.

To all our players, athletes, clubs, coaches, officials and volunteers, I wish you good luck for the year ahead.

Lisa Wainwright
Chief Executive

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

FLEXIBLE FORMATS THAT MEET MODERN NEEDS AND HABITS

Although the economic climate is showing signs of improvement, modern lifestyles and financial pressures continue to create many limitations on how individuals choose to spend their free time and disposable income. With this in mind, we understood there was a need to better identify with both our current and new participants. To overcome this, in the past year we have worked with a research company to carry out some work to better understand our 'Volleyball Universe'. This has led to the knowledge of how to remove barriers to participation. The initial research is now feeding into two further insight projects on beach volleyball and recreational volleyball participation.

The Go Spike 4V4 version of the game has continued to prove an ideal format for both young and adult beginners. Smaller courts are cost effective for recreational clubs, leisure and commercial providers wishing to grow their participation numbers. Last year's partnership with StreetGames has led to the development and roll out of Volleyball England's new Go Spike Student Activator

and Go Spike Activator Award courses, with over 200 people trained to date. Many of these are now delivering recreational activity in a college using a recommended festival format, recreational university sessions or community club recreational sessions.

A long term relationship has been developed with Festival Republic where 'come and try' opportunities were established at the Latitude Festival in July 2014, with plans to attend Latitude 2015. Over 500 young people experienced volleyball over two and half days, with all being sign-posted to other local community volleyball opportunities.

Let's Play Volleyball

THURSDAY 17th - SUNDAY 20th JULY 2014
Festival Republic LATITUDE FESTIVAL HENHAM PARK, SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK

DO YOU DIG VOLLEYBALL?

COME AND GIVE VOLLEYBALL A GO IN THE RED CAMPING C AREA

Standing and sitting volleyball available for all to try, open from 9.30am to dusk on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. See you there!

Follow us on twitter @Go_Spike for all volleyball Latitude news!
#GoSpikeLatitude

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND go spike!

AN INCREASED AWARENESS AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS

Our engagement with young people has proved highly successful, helping to address the drop-out rates of young people in sport through transitions such as leaving education or moving on from school to further and higher education. The establishment of the 41 new Let's Play Volleyball (satellite) Clubs has created new environments for young people to play volleyball, whilst linking school and community sport to strengthen the pathway and provide new opportunities for young people to continue to play volleyball.

Volleyball has cemented and strengthened its strong roots in the further and higher education sector in the past year, with 148 FE colleges and over 90 HE institutions playing volleyball, both recreationally and competitively. More students are experiencing volleyball for the first time or continuing to play whilst studying, with in excess of 5,000 young people receiving opportunities through the work of our Higher Education Volleyball Officers. The establishment of a new FE offer has created 35 new recreational sessions in colleges. This has been driven through peer to peer delivery, with 166 students upskilled through the new Go Spike Student Activator Award, creating an enhanced student physical activity offer.

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

A COMMUNITY CLUB NETWORK THIRSTY FOR GROWTH

Along with the 17 new community volleyball clubs (non-educational institution clubs) this past year, existing volleyball clubs continue to strengthen their presence in the local community, taking advantage of national Volleyball England and local County Sport Partnership programmes to embed themselves in the local club network. There are many opportunities for clubs to highlight their presence in the community by being part of the Go Spike Big Weekend, where over 40 events took place, to running and managing local 'come and try' events which are well received by the community. Running a Big Weekend event has prompted clubs to develop a 16+ recreational session as they appreciate the benefits recreational volleyball can bring to a club.

The long-term relationship with the National Trust has developed further and a new relationship with the Forestry Commission has been established. This has embedded volleyball further into the community, showcasing that physical activity can enrich customer visitor experiences at these partners' properties.

**go
spike!**



FOCUS IS CRITICAL TO SUCCESS

EAST LONDON AND ESSEX INVESTMENT ZONE 'ACTIVE PEOPLE ACTIVE PARK', A HIT IN LONDON

2014-15 has been a cracking year for volleyball across East London and Essex. Numerous satellite clubs have kick started in secondary schools and further education colleges, Higher Education Volleyball Officers (HEVO's) have been recruited and deployed into recreational volleyball sessions in universities. Clubs are definitely growing in size as more teams entered the London League and National Volleyball League.

In London the iconic 'Active People Active Park' project hit the ground running and in the first year alone 587 people took part in some form of volleyball on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. This is a remarkable achievement but a target that we want to smash in the forthcoming 2015-16 season.

Over the border in Essex, The University of Essex, who were recently recognised as a Volleyball England Senior Academy created an unrivalled community participation programme which is flourishing and set to grow. Alex Porter, Lead Volleyball Performance Coach at the University, has been instrumental to the programme's success. The model is straightforward. Alex recruited a number of young senior players to his scholarship programme. Funding was sourced from Active Essex and Essex Volleyball Association for their Level 1 coaching qualification. Once qualified, these young coaches were assigned local programmes in colleges around the Colchester area. The most notable was The Sixth Form College, Colchester where 20 male and female 16-18 year olds regularly participate in volleyball each week. In 2015-16 it is planned that this reliable and growing workforce will filter into the surrounding secondary schools in Colchester and increase the profile of the sport even further.

DORSET & HAMPSHIRE INVESTMENT ZONE FURTHER EDUCATION AND LPV SUCCESS STORY IN EASTLEIGH

The success of Volleyball at Eastleigh College and Barton Peverill College has been nothing short of remarkable in the past year. From previously offering the occasional volleyball session, both colleges (situated next door to each other) are now providing a weekly volleyball programme. Much of the credit for this resurgence must go to Tom Dickson (College Sports Maker at both colleges) who recognised in the summer of 2014 the demand for volleyball among the students. This led to Tom contacting his local Volleyball Relationship Manager (VRM), Mark Simmons, for support with introducing extra-curricular volleyball sessions. Volleyball England provided some funding to assist the sustainability and delivery of these new sessions, supporting two first year students to attend a UKCC L1 Volleyball Coaching Course hosted within the Dorset and Hants Investment Zone in November 2014.

The sessions have grown significantly and between them have seen 40 students attending each week. This success has resulted in discussions in recent months between the VRM, Team Southampton Volleyball Club (who train locally at Eastleigh) and Sport Hampshire & IOW (SHIOW) about establishing a Satellite Club at one of the College sites. Thanks to external funding from SHIOW as well as Volleyball England capital funding, we are delighted to report that from September 2015, Team Southampton Volleyball Club will be delivering a Volleyball Satellite Club at Barton Peveril College.



BLACK COUNTRY & STAFFORDSHIRE INVESTMENT ZONE FURTHER EDUCATION VOLLEYBALL IN THE BLACK COUNTRY AND STAFFORDSHIRE

One of the successes within the Black Country and Staffordshire Investment Zone was the growth in participation within the Further Education sector. Initially there were only a small number of colleges playing volleyball on a weekly basis, with limited competitive outlets. The wide range of abilities and lack of workforce to deliver and support activity made it challenging to provide opportunities for the recreational player.

To overcome this, a simple process was created to meet the differing agendas of the colleges which involved offering informal adaptable volleyball activity. This included partnership work with Black Country Be Active, Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent County Sports Partnerships to upskill college students to become Go Spike Student Activators, who would help to deliver volleyball to their peers.

Support and advice were also provided to source Sportivate funding for equipment and demonstrate how to adapt existing facilities to provide volleyball opportunities. Subsequently, colleges were able to increase their enrichment offer by creating college volleyball clubs that were led by the activators, supported by college staff to manage the administration of the activities.

Furthermore, a 4v4 mixed gender and ability inter-college festival structure was created as a competition pathway,

FOCUS IS CRITICAL TO SUCCESS

which also provided activators with the opportunity to gain experience in running bigger events.

As result of the project, 11 out of 13 colleges within the Investment Zone held weekly volleyball sessions, which signalled a 68% increase in college involvement in the sport. There were 119 student activators trained who helped to deliver the project. This project enabled 291 students to access volleyball, with 91% of the engaged colleges attending festivals.

TEES VALLEY AND TYNE & WEAR INVESTMENT ZONE

INCREASING THE PROFILE OF VOLLEYBALL IN THE NORTH EAST INVESTMENT ZONE

The North East Investment Zone boasts a wide range of volleyball clubs offering opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to take part in this fantastic sport. Clubs in the region have always worked closely together on many levels to promote volleyball. Over the past year, this collaboration has risen to a new height. The clubs are sharing a vision to improve the profile and coverage of the sport and operational delivery of activities, which in turn drives up participation.

Over the past 12 months the media profile and coverage of volleyball in the North East has grown in line with the increase in activity taking place in and around our community clubs and with new partners.

Creating a social media platform accessible to all volleyball participants and supporters was a key first step in drawing together all of the opportunities for volleyball in the North East. The Facebook and Twitter pages for 'North East Volleyball' have become a central point for the advertisement of volleyball activities as well as celebrating the numerous successes of local teams.

And there have been a lot of successes! The continued achievements of Team Northumbria in the Super 8 NVL and National Cup have attracted the attention of local broadcasters 'Made in Tyne and Wear' TV. This interest in volleyball has not only secured regular television coverage and information on Team Northumbria but has spread to include a range of activities including the coveted Tynemouth Beach Volleyball Tournament and the ever popular Quayside Seaside, nestled between the iconic Tyne Bridge and Millennium Bridge.

A major collaboration between North East Volleyball clubs created a mass participation event in Newcastle City Centre as part of the Go Spike Big Weekend in May 2015. Dubbed the #VolleyballTakeOver the event attracted in excess of 300 people of all ages and abilities to come along and have a go at volleyball and sitting volleyball. A timed series of pre-event press releases with agreed marketing support from delivery

partners and venues made for an unquantifiable reach in exposure for the sport. An established alliance with NE1 Ltd meant that premium sites throughout Newcastle were made available for the day, along with a great deal of logistical and promotional support. Post event press releases were featured across local radio and printed media and on Made in Tyne and Wear TV's 'The Lowdown' programme and evening bulletin.

We now look towards the London Legacy Volleyball Cup where Team Northumbria men's and women's teams will compete within our English contingents against some of the top teams from across Europe. More great volleyball to celebrate as a nation and no less so in the North East!

GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT ZONE

SATELLITE SUCCESS IN GREATER MANCHESTER

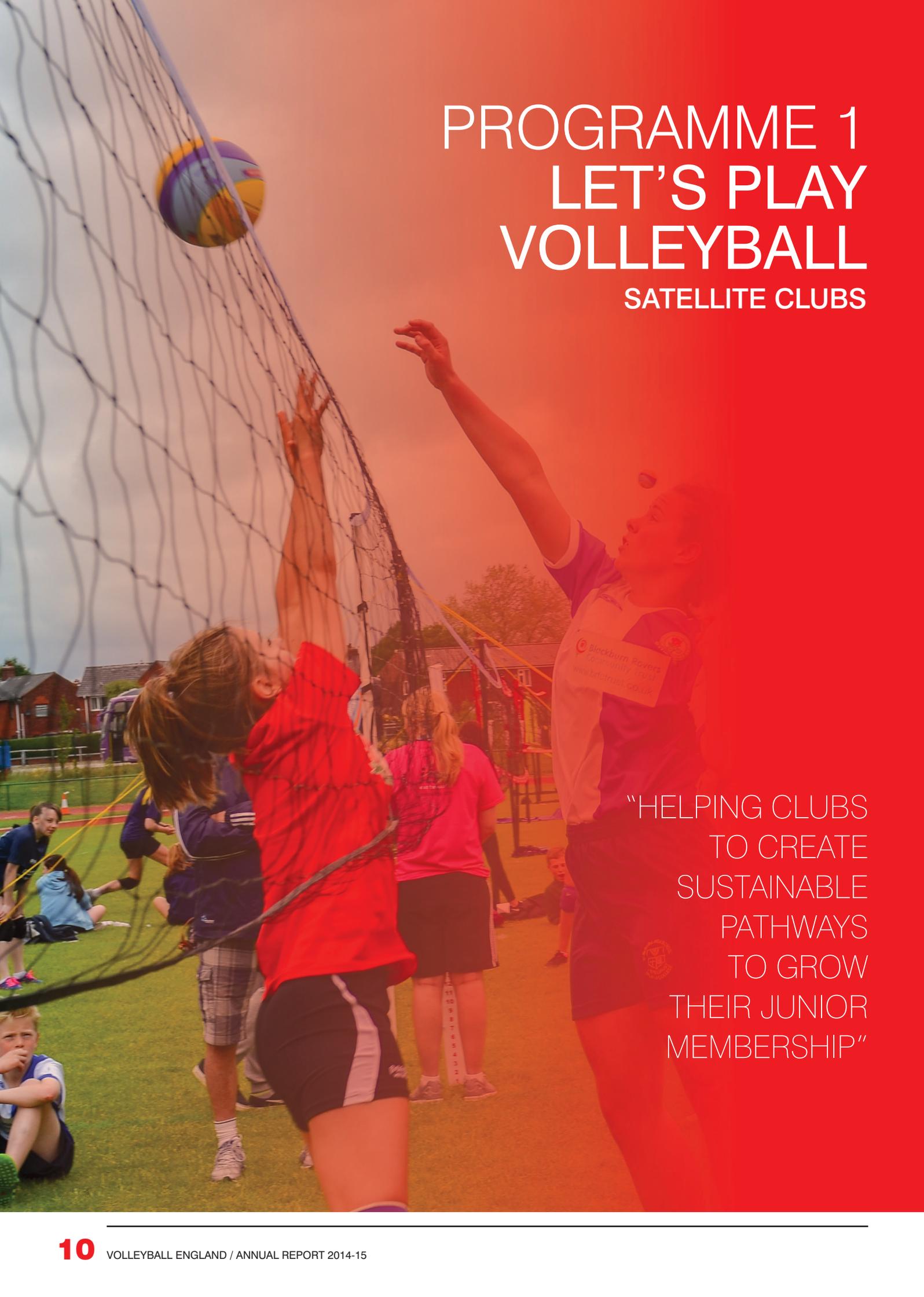
During 2014-2015, the Greater Manchester Investment Zone has been hugely successful, not only in terms of number of sessions, but the amount of people taking part.

Satellite Clubs are on target, with 240 young people playing weekly. The HEVO's have attracted over 160 students into seven sessions across four universities. Seven colleges have also reported increased volleyball activity and have joined the Greater Manchester College Grand Prix.

However, the stand-out success within the Investment Zone is the establishment of the Go Spike network. Thirteen Go Spike sessions form an integral part of our local strategy. Creating more opportunities for volleyball is vitally important and our Go Spike network enables the recreational user to come and enjoy volleyball at least once a week. These Go Spike sessions have also acted as a catalyst for groups to develop into clubs, and the impact is well received by the Greater Manchester Volleyball League. A special thanks must go to Blackley VC, Intervolley, V'Spocks VC and Oldham Tamaraws, who have all benefited from local support and funding to help become established volleyball clubs. Over 120 people are now playing in these sessions and clubs weekly.

Go Spike sessions are also an integral part of the multi sport programme at The Factory and Madhlo Youth Zone. Volleyball is now being delivered by activators to 60 young people each week. In addition, UKIM benefited from a start-up grant that enabled young Islamic girls and elders to take part in sport. Greater Manchester has also developed a pathway for people with a disability. Huge congratulations go to Paul Leward and Howard Ainsworth for driving the sitting volleyball programme and fielding two teams in the Grand Prix.

Greater Manchester is extremely proud to be able to support the 13 new Go Spike sessions, and £9,000 of external funding has helped sustain and grow our clubs. Thank you to all our activators and coaches, who have made this year a huge success.



PROGRAMME 1 LET'S PLAY VOLLEYBALL

SATELLITE CLUBS

“HELPING CLUBS
TO CREATE
SUSTAINABLE
PATHWAYS
TO GROW
THEIR JUNIOR
MEMBERSHIP”

PROGRAMME 1 - LPV SATELLITE CLUBS

THE LET'S PLAY VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMME HAS SEEN A SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN 2014-15 MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SATELLITE CLUB PROGRAMME. THESE CLUBS AIM TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE THE STEP INTO A VOLLEYBALL CLUB BY BRIDGING THE GAPS BETWEEN SCHOOL AND/OR COLLEGE ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY SPORT. THEY WILL PROVIDE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CREATE LIFELONG SPORTING HABITS.

These clubs are extensions or outposts of volleyball clubs in a new venue and target the 14-25 age group. Coaches and volunteers from, or linked to, a volleyball club work in partnership with the host venue to create a new community Let's Play Volleyball Club.

- 41 new Let's Play Volleyball Clubs set up
- Over 706 young people playing volleyball regularly
- £30,000 invested into the programme from Volleyball England Whole Sport Plan funding
- A further £83,000 external investment contributed towards the programme through Investment Zones

PREMIER LEAGUE 4 SPORT

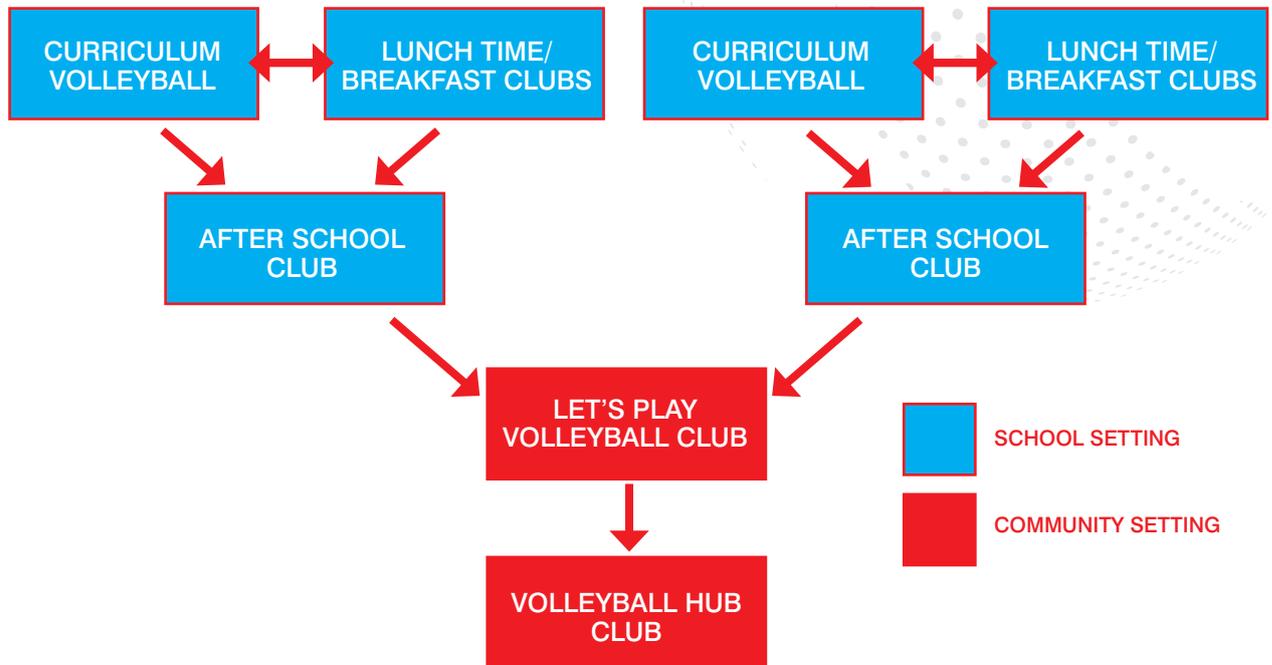
The partnership between the Premier League and volleyball has continued this year with 17 clubs delivering activity. The volleyball programme plays a large part in the increasing female participation, with over 52% of the participants attending the volleyball activity being young women, which is second only to netball.

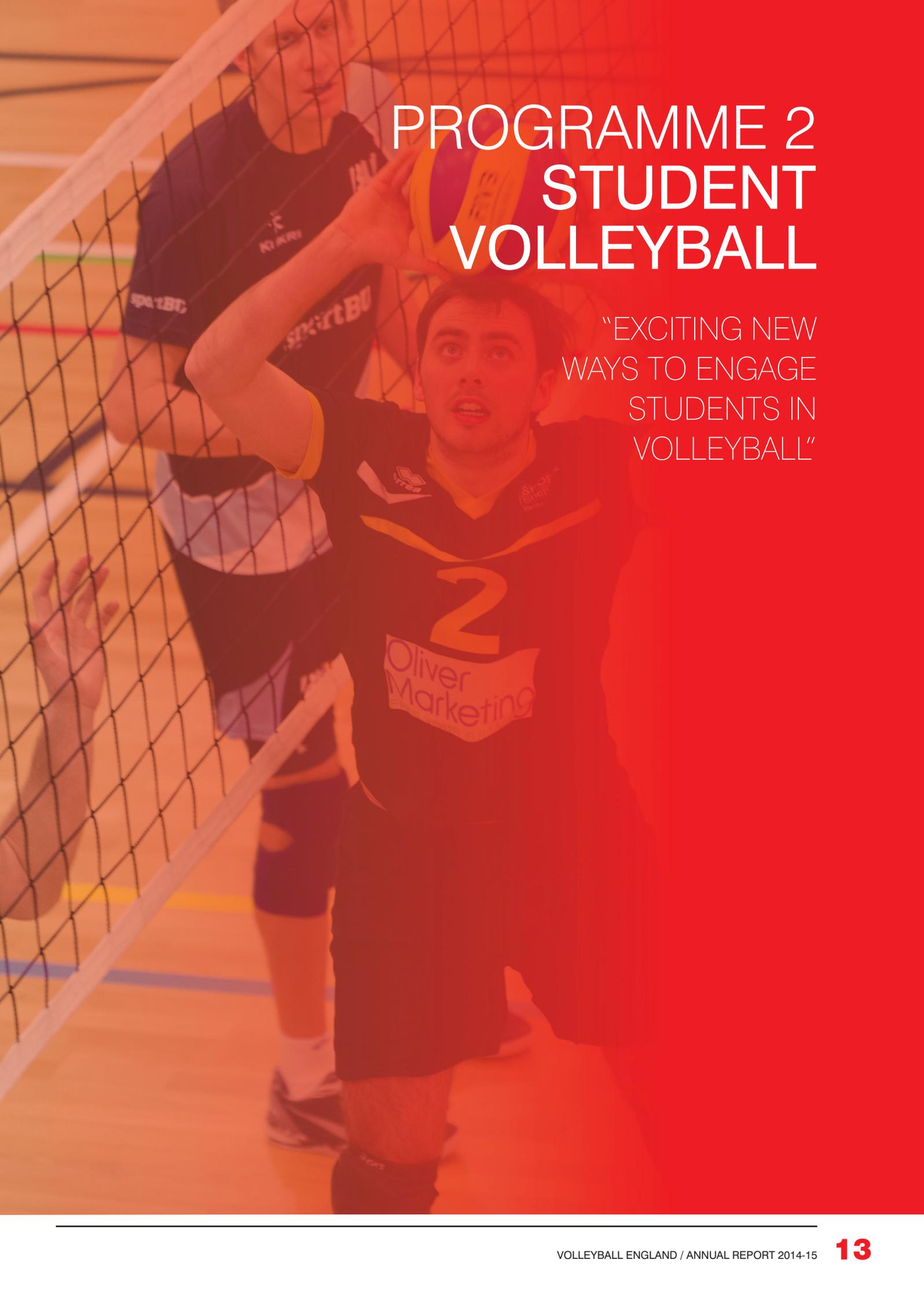
- 50 satellite clubs
- Over 1800 new young people playing volleyball, 905 (48%) of these regularly and 95 young people gaining volleyball coaching and activator qualifications



PROGRAMME 1 - LPV SATELLITE CLUBS

LET'S PLAY VOLLEYBALL PATHWAY





PROGRAMME 2 STUDENT VOLLEYBALL

“EXCITING NEW
WAYS TO ENGAGE
STUDENTS IN
VOLLEYBALL”

PROGRAMME 2 - STUDENT VOLLEYBALL

FURTHER EDUCATION VOLLEYBALL

The development of recreational volleyball in colleges has led to an increased number of activators and inter-college participation festivals across the country. They sit below the AOC Sport competitions, reaching out to new students wanting to try volleyball as a new sport.

- 148 FE Colleges playing volleyball
- Volleyball now the 5th most popular team sport in colleges
- 64 Colleges affiliated to Volleyball England
- 35 College recreational sessions established within Investment Zones
- Over 165 students gained the Go Spike Student Activator Award

HIGHER EDUCATION VOLLEYBALL OFFICERS (HEVO'S) PROGRAMME

This year we hit our final 2017 target of having 65 universities engaged in the HEVO programme; that's a full two years ahead of schedule. We recruited, trained and deployed 78 students into the HEVO role to lead and coordinate recreational volleyball within their university.

The annual two day HEVO conference took place at the National Volleyball Centre in September which was attended by over 50 HEVO's and Senior HEVO's, where they received training.

The programme has continued to build on the opportunities created to play volleyball recreationally, with some great examples across several universities of festivals and events, and set the standard for National Governing Body university officer programmes.

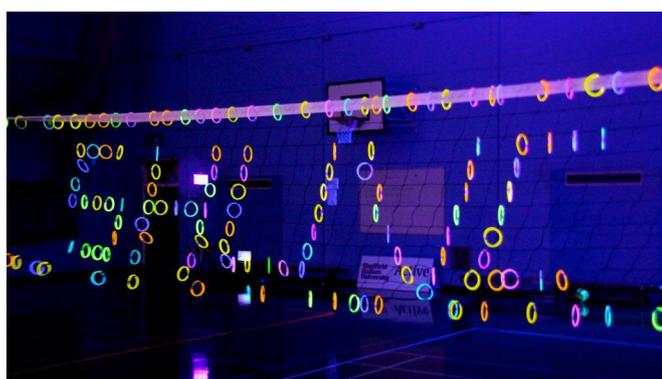


PROGRAMME 2 - STUDENT VOLLEYBALL

UVolleyball, or Glow in the Dark Volleyball, has taken off amongst the HEVO's - when the lights are turned out the volleyball fun begins! Multiple universities have created sessions to drive participation in their recreational sessions.

Nottingham Trent also demonstrated the impact of mass participation events through the Go Spike Big Weekend. The event engaged 150 students and members of the community.

The impact of the Higher Education Volleyball Officer (HEVO) Programme has also had a positive effect on BUCS entries. Entries increased by 12 for men's teams and 11 for women's teams, with a total of 242 teams entering across 84 universities in 2014-15 - an increase of 10% from the previous year.

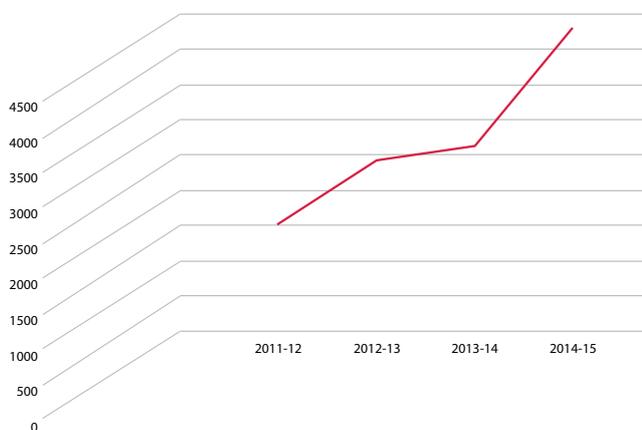


The programme has achieved:

- Almost 5000 new student participants playing volleyball (4901)
- Over 2300 participating weekly on average through the programme (2367)
- 53 qualified activators
- 66 qualified referees

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Volleyball (M)	95	108	120
Volleyball (F)	97	111	122

Number of participants in HEVO sessions





PROGRAMME 3 GO SPIKE

“INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE TO EXPERIENCE RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL”

PROGRAMME 3 - GO SPIKE

“INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE TO EXPERIENCE RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL”

Headline figures recorded over the year
April 2014–March 2015:

- 11,181 unique visitors to the Go Spike website, with 30,935 total page views
- 16,100 approximate users of permanent beach courts
- 15,000 approximate users of semi-permanent beach courts
- 48% growth in the number of new Go Spike Sessions over 2013-2014
- 62 Go Spike Sessions running, with over 58% of the participants retained in each session

COMMUNITY CLUB RECRUITMENT

Through the development of the Investment Zones and national office support for the rest of the country, clubs receive direct assistance to establish Go Spike Recreational Sessions. This has had an extremely positive impact, leading to a 48% growth in the number of Go Spike Sessions. Additionally, through the Go Spike Big Weekend clubs receive the tools, resources and marketing guidance to enable them to run recruitment drives to ensure long term sustainability of their club. In May 2014 over 45 clubs signed up to run a Big Weekend event, which is the largest number of clubs to date to run ‘come and try’ events over the Big Weekend.

ACTIVATING BEACH FACILITIES

The number of beach facilities across England is increasing, with over 26 permanent beach facilities and over 17 semi-permanent beach facilities offering casual, recreational and competitive volleyball opportunities. Volleyball England is aware of a number of plans for new beach court facilities from Scarborough to Oxford, from Salford to Colchester and many other points in between. The links between the facilities and local clubs continue to improve, with one of the best examples being Richmond Volleyball Club and their use of the Teddington Beach Volleyball Centre. The club-organised activities alone saw nearly 2000 people use the facility in the first few months of spring and summer 2015.

The key objective for the immediate future is to ensure the facilities are maximised to their full potential and provide as much support as possible to the organisations and partnerships looking to establish new facilities.

ACTIVATING COMMERCIAL PROVIDERS

The partnership with the National Trust has developed and grown, with venues providing sporting activity at 10 properties. All 10 properties have an outdoor net system and Go Spike balls to engage their customers in informal volleyball during their visit to the property. This has been extremely successful, with over 600 individuals engaged. NT properties such as Gibside and Osterley Park have been leading the way. We expect further roll out to additional National Trust properties in 2015-2016. We continue to help increase the connections between clubs and their local National Trust property in order for the clubs to hold a range of activities, including regular club sessions in the evening, whilst offering an exit route for any visitors wishing to play regular volleyball, along with clubs being able to play in some of the most stunning outdoor venues in the country.

A new relationship has been developed with the Forestry Commission, along a similar model to the National Trust and will see the roll out of outdoor net systems and Go Spike balls in summer 2015.

A recreational Workplace Offer has been developed and rolled out alongside the County Sports Partnership Workplace Challenge Competitions. Volleyball has featured in both winter (Indoor Volleyball) and summer (Grass or Beach Volleyball) in Summer Games. These competitions have been extremely popular nationally, with the volleyball competitions reaching capacity.

Leisure providers throughout England continue to offer opportunities to play both recreational and competitive volleyball. We have begun working with partners such as UK Active, Greenwich Leisure (GLL) and Everyone Active to pilot and test the Go Spike recreational volleyball options and ensure what we offer is attractive to the wide range of leisure providers.



PROGRAMME 3 - GO SPIKE

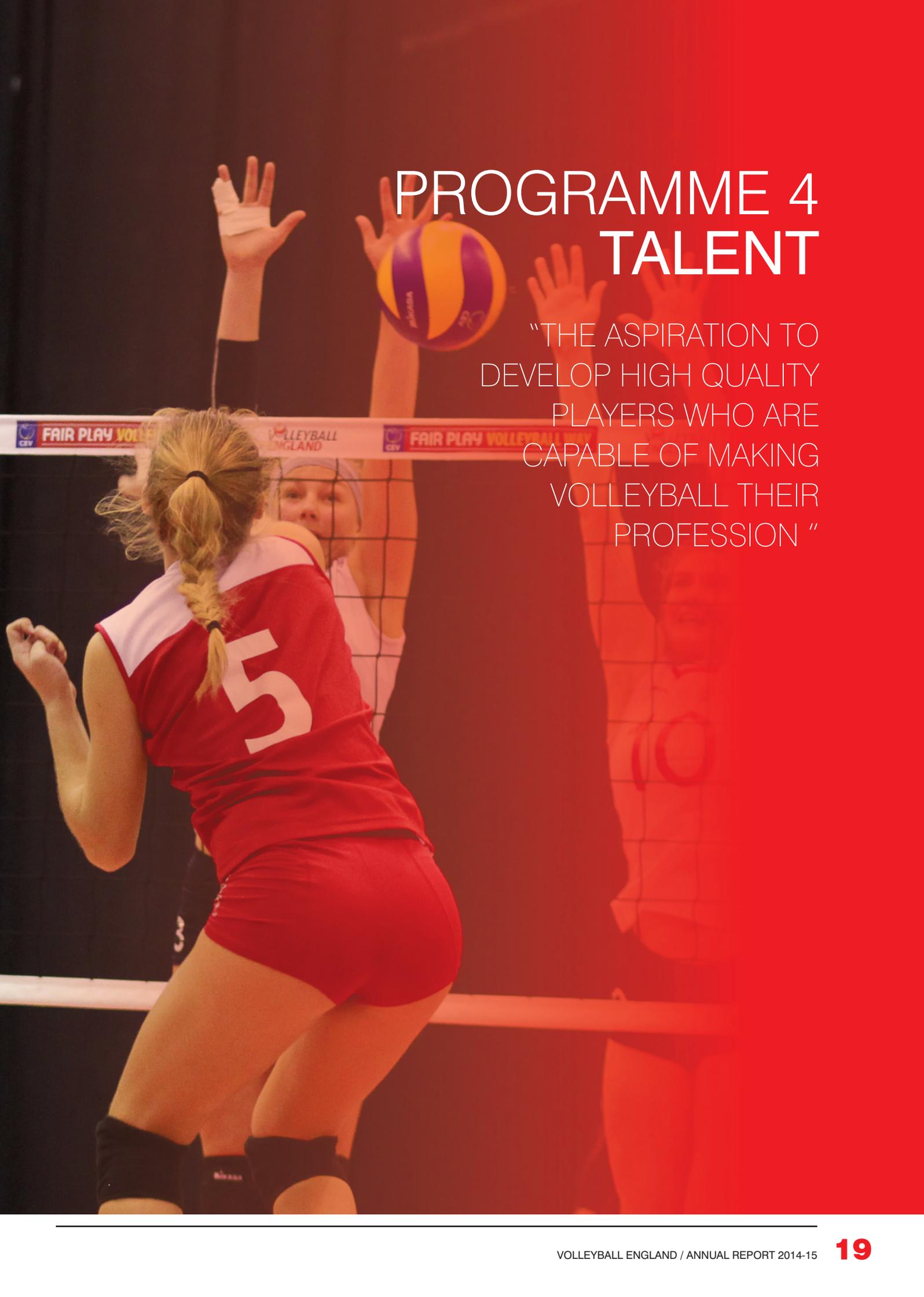
PARTNERS

The building of new and existing partnerships to successfully implement the Go Spike offer continues. New organisations we have linked with in order to gain fresh perspectives on adult recreational sports programmes include the Rugby Football League, Rounders England, and Baseball-Softball UK.

Engagement with County Sports Partnerships outside of the Investment Zones grew significantly, with the CSP's in Lancashire, West & South Yorkshire, Nottingham, Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland, Surrey, Sussex and Bristol/Somerset (plus many others) all helping to ensure volleyball is a focus sport in their areas.

Last, but by no means least, we have worked very closely with Sport England around its "This Girl Can" campaign. As an early adopter and supporter of the campaign, and one of the few National Governing Bodies who immediately included coaching, refereeing and volunteering into our extensions (and our outstanding gender balance within the sport), Sport England recognised our commitment by including volleyball in phase 2 of the campaign roll out, with posters and billboards having a volleyball theme.





PROGRAMME 4 TALENT

“THE ASPIRATION TO
DEVELOP HIGH QUALITY
PLAYERS WHO ARE
CAPABLE OF MAKING
VOLLEYBALL THEIR
PROFESSION ”

PROGRAMME 4 - TALENT

TALENT PATHWAY DEVELOPMENTS

An athlete profile and identification project has now commenced. This will evaluate physical, mental, technical and tactical attributes required for world class volleyball players in indoor, beach and sitting, evidencing how those attributes are demonstrated at all stages of the pathway from identification through to senior level. We are partnering with Sheffield Hallam and Essex University research departments alongside a volleyball expert panel in order to produce a robust profile and testing battery which will be rolled out from January 2016 across the country.

CADET PROGRAMME - INDOOR

The National Cadet Programmes (girls and boys) are continuing to thrive and we have held a number of open trials at the NVC in order to increase the opportunity for young players to be seen by national team coaches and be selected for the squads. A significant number of cadet athletes moved up to the junior squads this year, demonstrating the connectivity of the pathway between young and older athletes. They are making good progression in their development as young athletes.

- 25 boys and 25 girls in the National Squad Cadet Programmes
- NEVZA U17 Championships: boys finished 4th, girls finished 6th
- 90% of boys and 100% of girls progressed from the cadet squads to the junior squads this year

JUNIOR PROGRAMME - INDOOR



We currently have 110 athletes in Year 12 and 13 at our seven Junior Academies. Of these, 93 have either completed, or are currently on, the AASE programme. We will be launching a new Junior Academy in the Greater Manchester Investment Zone in September 2015, which will be based at Salford City

College and provide the opportunity for athletes in the North West to access a new talent programme. The junior men's and junior women's squads competed in the NEVZA U19 Championships in Denmark. Nathan Fullerton was named MVP for the tournament, whilst Cameron Carrington and Ryan Poole were named in the Super Seven.

- 25 women and 25 men in the national squad junior programmes
- NEVZA U19 – both men and women finished 4th
- 110 athletes in our junior academy programmes, with 93 on the AASE programme

JUNIOR PROGRAMME – BEACH

A training and competition schedule is now in place for both junior men's and women's beach, with a Head Coach in place for each squad. The athletes in this programme are also supported to compete in the Junior Volleyball England Beach Tour.

- FIVB U17 World Championships - Junior women finished 9th
- CEV U18 European Championships – Junior Men finished 9th, Junior Women finished 9th
- CEV U20 European Championships – Junior Men finished 25th

SENIOR PROGRAMME - INDOOR

Significant steps have been taken this year in re-igniting a young senior programme with the launch of the Senior Academy programme at 5 Universities with the support of TASS.

- 5 Senior Academies – Sheffield Hallam University, Northumbria University, Essex University, Bournemouth University and University of East London
- 40 TASS awards for the 2014-2015 academic year



PROGRAMME 4 - TALENT

SENIOR PROGRAMME - BEACH

We have a senior men's beach pair, Chris Gregory and Jake Sheaf, who currently compete on the FIVB World Tour events, CEV Tour events and in Senior NEVZA competitions. They receive no funding but full administrative support, coach development and planning from the Talent Team. In December 2014 they secured enough points to represent Team GB at the first European Games in Baku, June 2015. We have also been successful in competing in the CEV Continental Cup – a Road to Rio event. Both the men's and women's teams successfully qualified through Rounds 1 and 2, May and September 2014, setting up the opportunity to progress to Rounds 3 and 4 in 2015.

- European Games, Baku 2015 – men's team qualified to compete as Team GB
- Continental Cup – women's and men's squads through to 2015 Rio qualification stages
- Interim coaches appointed for both the men's and women's squads

SITTING VOLLEYBALL

- 2 Great Britain Sitting Volleyball teams competing internationally
- GB Women finished 11th at 2014 World Championships
- GB Men beat Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in the 2015 Riga Cup

Both of the GB teams have been training throughout the year with a total of 12 men and 14 women involved with the programme. They have utilised the excellent training facilities offered by the University of East London and Ashcombe Volleyball Centre on a regular basis.

The women's team attended the 2014 World Championship in Elblag, Poland where they beat Poland twice to finish in 11th place.

The men's team attended the Riga Cup in March and recorded wins against Latvia (11th in 2013 Europeans), Lithuania (12th in 2013 Europeans) and Estonia.

Further competitive matches are planned in 2015 against quality international teams such as Canada in an event to be held in Stoke Mandeville. The teams will then continue to build towards major competitions in 2016.

The Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix once again offered teams the chance to compete on a regular basis and allowed GB

coaches to identify potentially talented players.

September saw the inaugural Invictus Games take place in London. Volleyball England was involved in the official launch of the event with HRH Prince Harry and then delivered the Sitting Volleyball event which received widespread publicity including live coverage on the BBC.

A Talent ID strategy is in the final stages of development which will then be implemented to identify and recruit new players to the sport and widen the pool of talent available for GB selection.

DEVELOPMENT OF COACHES OPERATING IN OUR TALENT PATHWAY

In summer 2014, we started a Talented Coaches Development Programme with 16 England national team and Academy coaches. The coaches worked across two programmes; eight selected for Sport England's Connect and eight for Sports Coach UK's Strive programmes.

Strive focused on the role of the 'Coach Developer' and how they work with coaches to observe, mentor and ultimately change and enhance coaching behaviour and, as part of the programme, two volleyball tutors were trained in the role of coach developer. Connect was mainly delivered through a series of themed workshops facilitated and presented by a skilled coach developer from Sport England. He also worked with the coaches on a more in-depth basis to video them in action, analyse and work on individual development needs in areas such as creating a learning environment and the coach reflection model.

The next step will be to develop a Volleyball England Programme in 2015-16 that will expand on the work above, plus additional coaches in the England Talent Pathway.



COACHING & REFEREEING

COACHING

21 Level 1 Courses	283 learners
4 Level 2 Courses	55 learners
10 Activator Courses	183 learners
18 Grade 4 Referee Courses	294 learners
3 Sitting Volleyball Workshops	41 learners
3 CEV / FIVB Courses	34 learners

2014-15 has been a significant year for the development of our coaches. By the end of 2014-15 there were 800 registered coaches working in clubs, schools, colleges, universities, satellite clubs and the wider community to develop the sport. What's more, we launched two new volleyball workshops – Activator and Sitting - and ran three international courses with FIVB / CEV at the National Volleyball Centre in Kettering. The new Volleyball UKCC Level 2 Course - the Club Coach role – was also fully launched and rolled out during the year.

• Launching the Activator

The Activator role was created with the clear objective to get more people playing 'informal' volleyball. The Activator is not a coach but is someone who is trained to get people playing volleyball quickly using fun games and drills. During the year, Activators started volleyball sessions at colleges, universities and leisure centres. Next year this will expand to include the clubs that are running Go Spike recreational sessions.



• New sitting workshop

In September, we launched a new workshop for the sitting version of the game. Aimed at schools, colleges, universities and clubs, it teaches participants how to introduce sitting volleyball and provides a booklet full of warm-ups, drills and fun games.

• CEV / FIVB courses hosted in England

Kettering became an international destination in 2014-15 as we hosted three CEV / FIVB coaching courses. Coaches came from across Europe - including Romania, Belgium, Slovenia, Turkey and Iceland – in addition to 18 English coaches.

- DataVolley
- FIVB Level 2
- Beach Get Involved



“Obtaining the Level 1 Volleyball coaching badge has opened many more opportunities than just furthering my knowledge of the sport. It has made me a better communicator, better at time management and most importantly more confident.”

Ross Davison, aged 19, coach at John Spence Community High School.

“The Level 2 Course has been excellent in helping me to challenge myself and in making sure I reflect on how I can better influence my players’ performance. Also the practical hints and tips from the tutors were brilliant - they have helped me create much more vibrant and dynamic sessions.”

Paul Kaerger, coach at the University of Leicester, teams in local leagues and BUCS. Completed the UKCC Level 2 Course in 2014.

“The Activator course was a perfect fit for our Higher Sport Leaders Award. The students really enjoyed it, they learnt a new sport and they had the confidence to use what they had learnt to run Activator sessions afterwards. I would recommend it highly.”

Clare Leeson – Higher Sports Leaders Tutor.

REFEREEING

Last year saw a surge in new referees thanks to the launch of the new one-day course. Combining practical sessions and classroom learning, the course attracted almost 300 learners with 244 passing the final exam. There were a number of observations across the country. This is where a team of skilled, senior referees observe and mentor referees at all levels to improve their skills – whether they are top referees at the Cup Finals or referees starting at the bottom of the National Volleyball League.

The Annual Referee Conference took place in August where more than 60 referees from across the country travelled to hear keynote speaker, Sports Officials UK’s Janie Frampton, give her insight into the conflict and pressures that top referees face and ways of dealing with them. The event was a resounding success with referees examining how greater self-awareness can help in raising their skill levels.

COMPETITIONS & COMMERCIAL

COMPETITIONS & COMMERCIAL

2014-15 was one of the busiest years to date, with three international events hosted on home soil and more domestic competitions taking place at the National Volleyball Centre. For the first time, five major events were broadcast via SKY Sports and live streaming, with a global reach of over 60,000 people.



NATIONAL CUP FINALS

The National Cup Competitions were again a great showcase for the sport, with both senior and junior athletes competing over a weekend which featured the season's National Cup & Shield and U16 & U18 competitions. Team Northumbria won both the Men's and Women's Cup Finals, while Ashcombe Dorking won the Women's Shield. Tendring were also victorious, winning the Men's Shield.

Academy of Beach Sports kicked off the second day with a win in the U16 Girls' Final, defeating Richmond VB who at one stage were two sets up on their opponents. There was also success for Boswells Blaze, as their U16 Boys' team beat Wessex LeAF. The U18 Girls' Final was won by Tameside against Wessex LeAF. Boswells Blaze also took the U18 Men's Final with a victory over LeAF Wessex.

SUPER 8 FINALS PLAY-OFFS

After another exciting regular season, Team Northumbria finished in pole position in both the men's and women's divisions. The Finals Weekend saw Sheffield Hallam Men (who finished second in the regular season) and Polonia SideOut London Women (also second in the regular season) take on Team Northumbria in a bid to cause an upset. Team Northumbria Women were stretched to the limit but overcame a spirited Polonia SideOut team. Team Northumbria Men were able to reverse their previous year's defeat by defeating City of Sheffield Men in a pulsating series of matches.

UNDER 18 GRAND PRIX

The Under 18 Grand Prix was established to provide an additional competitive outlet for teams and to assist in the development of

athletes. A series of events took place at the National Volleyball Centre, with the finals taking place alongside the Super 8s Finals Weekend. LeAF Wessex A reached the final and beat Graveney Malory Eagles in the Women's section while LeAF Wessex overcame Boswells Blaze in straight sets.

SITTING VOLLEYBALL GRAND PRIX FINAL AND CUP

The two best teams of the regular season took to the floor over the same weekend as the Super 8 Play-off Finals. The final was a fantastic match between East London Lynx and Newcastle Staffs. East London Lynx showed their experience by winning the match 3-0.

The Sitting Volleyball Cup was introduced into the competition calendar for the first time. East London Lynx were up against Newcastle Staffs in a domestic final once more but there was no change in fortune for the Staffs team as they were beaten by Lynx.

VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND BEACH TOUR

The Volleyball England Beach Tour was delivered in partnership with SideOut and comprised of five events in 2014. Over 240 players took part in the tour which featured a junior section and for the first time, a Challenger event that took place alongside the Finals. The tour hosts were Skegness, Great Yarmouth, Weston-super-Mare, Weymouth and Margate. The Finals were shown on SKY Sports, with an estimated 30,000 viewers. The 2015 National Women's Champions were Jessica Grimson and Victoria Palmer and Men's Champions Chris Gregory and Aden Tutton.



NORTHERN EUROPEAN VOLLEYBALL ZONAL ASSOCIATION (NEVZA) UNDER 17 CHAMPIONSHIPS

The National Volleyball Centre hosted the NEVZA Championships for the second time in consecutive years. The event featured seven countries - England, Denmark, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Norway, Finland and Sweden. The event is seen as a key platform for the development of junior athletes and workforce. England Boys were defeated in the bronze medal match by Sweden. Finland won both the Boys' and Girls' Finals in entertaining games which were broadcast via live stream and watched by over 8,000 people.

COMPETITIONS & COMMERCIAL

NEVZA BEACH CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the first time England hosted a NEVZA senior beach event in December at the indoor beach facility at LeAF Academy, Bournemouth in conjunction with Deep Dish Volleyball. The primary objectives for hosting the event were to give our national team athletes a chance to play against some quality opposition from Europe as part of their development on home soil. Hosting the event also gave the best opportunity for the England team of Jake Sheaf and Chris Gregory to gain valuable ranking points to qualify for the European Games in Baku. 16 men's and 13 women's teams from England, Denmark, Norway and Sweden took part in the event. The England teams performed well, with the highlight being a bronze medal for Jake Sheaf and Chris Gregory



Pic: sandsphotos.co.uk

CEV BEACH VOLLEYBALL CONTINENTAL CUP

The first round of the CEV Continental Cup took place in June last year. The event was delivered in partnership with LeAF Academy in Bournemouth. The Continental Cup is an Olympic qualification event and featured England teams with both genders of the competition along with three other countries in each pool. The men's team topped their group to progress to round 3, whilst the women's team progressed to round 2. A successful event on home soil for the England teams against some quality opposition. The event also saw the creation of an outdoor beach facility at the LeAF campus which is a fantastic legacy for the competition.

COMMERCIAL

We have now moved into the second year of the partnership with itsu. Our partners of the beach tour have continued to raise the profile of the sport through their distribution channels of nearly 60 outlets. The sport is now being profiled on itsu packaging, with exposure to thousands of people daily in 2000 supermarkets in the England.

We have secured a partnership with Bishop Sports & Leisure in relation to the sale of equipment and resources.

UNUM and UBS have supported our sitting volleyball work via Corporate Social Responsibility donations and we look forward to delivering some exciting projects with them to engage their staff and raise the profile of sitting volleyball.

We have also secured a kit and footwear partnership with sportswear giants Mizuno. The support from Mizuno will assist in supplying kit to our squads and the organisation as well as promoting the sport and its activities.

Recognition and thanks to all our other commercial partners across the business including Maroon Print, Phoenix Leisure, Holiday Inn Express Kettering, Sportset and Red Bull

REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

For the first time three International Courses were successfully delivered at the FIVB / CEV Development Centre in Kettering. Over 36 people from England, Lichtenstein, Iceland, Belgium, Hungary, Slovenia, Cyprus, Ireland, Hong Kong, Turkey, Switzerland and Bulgaria attended the Beach Get Involved, Data Volley and FIVB Level 2 courses. The Centre in England has been recognised as a key partner in the development of the sport and is a major driver for hosting a variety of activities all year round.



PR & MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP

- 17 New Clubs
- 441 Affiliated Clubs
- 849 Registered Coaches
- 629 Registered Referees

VOLLEY 123 ACCREDITATION

The Volley 123 Accreditation is currently in an exciting redevelopment phase. The major developments include the accreditation process being completed on-line, being able to use the data you supply (as part of the accreditation) on a day-to-day basis and rewards that actually benefit your club. The redevelopment of the accreditation will align with Sport England's Club Matters tool, which we would highly recommend to help your club with such aspects as becoming a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), 1-2-1 Mentoring, Club Views (Club Review) and much, much more.

For further details go to: <https://learn.sportenglandclubmatters.com>

VOLLEY 1

VK Barnet
Dartford Volleyball Club
Chelmsford Volleyball Club
Team Sandwell
Nottingham Rockets Volleyball Club
Kettering Volleyball Club
Cleobury Volleyball Club
Worthing Volleyball Club
Rugby Phoenix
Lincolnshire Sitting Volleyball Association
Pumas of Portsmouth
Wigan Seahawks
Coventry & Warwick Riga
Dolphin VC
DARKSTAR Volleyball
South Hants Volleyball Club
South Birmingham Volleyball Club
New Forest & Lymington Volleyball Club
Nuneaton Volleyball Club

VOLLEY 2

City of Salford Volleyball Club
Newburn Volleyball Club
Tamworth Spartans
Team Southampton
Tettenhall Tigers Volleyball Club
Academy of Beach Sports
York Volleyball Club
Marske Volleyball Club
Wessex Volleyball Club

VOLLEY 3

Ashcombe Volleyball Club
Newcastle (Staffs) Volleyball Club



SOCIAL MEDIA

The popularity and effectiveness of all areas of Volleyball England's social media has expanded during 2014-2015.

Twitter

Our Twitter followers continued to grow, with a total of 9704 people following us by end of March 2015 across our three sites.

- Volleyball England site increased from 5978 to 7201
- GB Sitting Volleyball site increased from 1183 to 1302
- Go Spike site increased from 953 to 1201

Facebook

Our Facebook pages also continued to grow:

- Volleyball England page increased from 5336 to 7114
- GB Sitting Volleyball page decreased from 7129 to 6282*
- Go Spike page increased from 556 to 667
- Volleyball England Beach Tour page increased from 425 to 552
- National Volleyball Centre increased from 0 to 432

* The decrease in Sitting Volleyball's page is due to the absence of a large number of followers who only followed us during the Paralympics 2012 for the match result pages.

Website

The average monthly total of website visitors in 2014-2015 was 30,769. Visitors viewed an average of 5.1 pages per visit.

YouTube

Viewers spent over 6300 hours watching the content on our Volleyball England YouTube Channel. Videos from the live streaming of the Super 8s and Cup Finals were available following completion of the event. Special events in 2014-2015 were also available on video, such as the AGM in July 2014 and the publication of our Strategy 2024 on 27 March 2015.



EQUITY & SAFEGUARDING

EQUITY

"Having participated in several sports I have to say that volleyball is the most accepting of diversity and difference I have come across."
A Volleyball England Registered Coach

2014-15 was a significant year in regards to Equity and Diversity, with a sport wide audit being carried out, a 'Block It Out' anti-bullying campaign, whilst making major strides towards achieving an Intermediate Standard in the National Equality Framework.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY AUDIT

Volleyball England has conducted an audit around protected characteristics and whether anyone involved in volleyball is discriminated against on the basis of these. Data has been compared with previous audit results where applicable (collected in 2006), along with national statistics, to ensure that there has been progress in ensuring volleyball is accessible to all members of the community.

- Volleyball has a higher proportion of female coaches than the average for sports in the UK, and slightly more female players than male. 97% of the volleyball community didn't feel that they had been discriminated against or treated less favourably on the basis of their gender.
- The proportion of coaches, referees and NVL players who are 'LGB & Other' (lesbian, gay, bisexual and other, such as asexual) is broadly in line with the national average. There is a higher than average diversity within the Volleyball England staff. No discrimination on the grounds of sexuality was reported.
- There is generally a high level of ethnic diversity within Volleyball England and it has increased since 2006. Of particular note, 47% of NVL players are of ethnicities other than 'White British.'
- Muslims are underrepresented in volleyball. By contrast, the proportion of each sector of the volleyball community that are 'No Religion or Belief/Atheist' is significantly higher than the overall population.
- Overall there has been an increase in the proportion of the volleyball community with a disability or long-term condition since 2006 and there is also a higher proportion of Commission Members and staff with a disability than the UK working age population.

EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

- Entries into British Ethnic Diversity Sports Awards and the Women's Sport Trust 'Be A Game Changer Awards' to recognise individuals from those groups who contribute to volleyball.
- Volleyball Relationship Managers work with Hindu communities and Filipino communities to increase volleyball opportunities.

- Parents are encouraged to volunteer at Volleyball England events.
- The Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix Series is open to all players, with or without a disability.



Volleyball England staff back the 'Block It Out' anti-bullying campaign.

- A team from 'Diversity Role Models' (an organisation which actively seeks to prevent homophobic and transphobic bullying in UK schools through education) played in the Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix Series.
- Volleyball England signed up to 'Think Act Report' - a Government Equalities Office approach to voluntary gender equality reporting in the workplace.
- Volleyball England has been awarded the 'Two Ticks Positive about Disability' symbol by Jobcentre Plus.
- The staff recruitment policy and the HEVO programme have been audited using the Section 75 Policy Screening Form. No major concerns were highlighted and any minor points will be followed up. Volleyball England have committed to screen all new and existing policies by 2017



EQUITY & SAFEGUARDING



SITTING VOLLEYBALL PARTICIPATION

On the participation side, player numbers and clubs supporting sitting volleyball continue to grow. Through the work of national office staff, the Volleyball Relationship Managers and club volunteers, we have:

- Exceeded the Sport England four year participation target of 128 players, with 151 regular participants
- Increased the number of teams playing in the Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix – up from 6 to 11
- Launched a new Sitting Volleyball Workshop and are now actively training coaches, activators and teachers

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION REPORTS



YORKSHIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.yorkshirevolleyball.org

COMPETITIONS

National Volleyball League

Congratulations to Leeds Men who secured a second consecutive promotion, winning Men's Division 1 and gaining automatic promotion into the Men's Super 8. Another division winner was City of Sheffield 2 Men who topped Men's Division 3 North with only one defeat.

Yorkshire Competitions

Men's Yorkshire Premier League (9 teams)
Women's Yorkshire Premier League (10 teams)
Yorkshire Women's Division 1 (4 teams)
Hull and East Yorkshire League (9 teams)
West Yorkshire League (5 teams)

The Yorkshire Cup was run as two separate one-day tournaments, one for men and one for women.

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 28
Coaches: 45
Referees: 43

VOLUNTEERS

The local activity is all organised by great volunteers, on top of the sterling work they also do for their individual clubs. Particular thanks go to Doug Lawson, Patrick Sprakes, Oli Gregory, Mo Bucksun, Tim Godson and Roger Kittle.

OTHER EVENTS

Summer Activities
Hull & East Yorkshire ran their weekly 2-a-side league through the summer months. Many clubs have offered Go Spike sessions in local parks. In the summer there were outdoor tournaments on grass, in Leeds, Cleckheaton and York.

Beach Volleyball
The 32nd Bridlington Mixed Beach Tournament was held in July 2014, masterminded as always by Dave and Penny Speers. Advanced entries for 2015 show that interest is at the highest level ever. The Go Spike beach courts at Bridlington have seen much use and a series of 2-a-side events are going ahead in Summer 2015.



WEST MIDLANDS VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.wmva.org.uk

COMPETITIONS

NVL Men 5 (+2 more entering next year)
NVL Women 6 (+1 more next year)
Total teams in WMVA Regional Leagues:
Men 26
Women 17
Registered Players:
A total of 740 players (+41) were registered to play this year, 295 (-5) ladies and 445 (+46) men. Of these players 34 (-16) ladies and 20 (-6) men are also registered to play in the NVL.
North Staffs League:
Men's Teams 8
Women's Teams 4

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 44
Coaches: 118
Referees: 97

VOLUNTEERS

Executive 6
Competitions Sub-Committee 6

OTHER EVENTS

Juvoto and Juvolle Junior Leagues
Sandwell volleyball Tournament



NORTH EAST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.ncva.org.uk

TEES VALLEY VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.teesvalleyvolleyball.co.uk

COMPETITIONS

Congratulations go to the Team Northumbria Super 8 teams for winning the league, along with the cups. It's also good to see eight other teams playing NVL from the region, with the highlights being Durham University Ladies winning Division 2N and Sunderland Predator Ladies being promoted into Division 2.

At regional level, Northern Counties had 19 teams spread over two men's and one women's divisions. Two regional leagues (men and women) ran with nine teams in total. Newburn (Newcastle City) won the three men's leagues, whilst Monkseaton (Coast) the two women's.

14 teams competed in the Tees Valley Region, split into two leagues, with the Marske club winning both divisions.

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 18
Coaches: 61
Referees: 31

OTHER EVENTS

Junior Academy:
3The annual pre-season and Ian Berry tournaments ran again this season. Thanks to the Marden and Marske clubs for running them.
Encouraging work has been achieved with the region's junior academies this season, with northern and southern sections both now running regularly. The aim, with the support of a 'small grant aid', is to send teams to the Inter Regional Competition next season.
Numerous satellite clubs are now being established across the region thanks to the sterling work of our Volleyball Relationship Manager, Sam Jamieson. Meanwhile a Level 1 Coaching Course was run this season and a Level 2 is now firmly underway.

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION REPORTS



SOUTH EAST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.southeastvolleyball.co.uk

COMPETITIONS

Sussex: 3 Divisions, 30 teams
 Surrey : 6 Divisions, 38 teams
 Kent: 3 Divisions, 20 teams
 Berkshire: 4 Divisions, 37 teams
 Hampshire: 6 Divisions, 24 teams
 County standard competitive teams: 140 teams
 NVL: 30 teams

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 74
 Coaches: 125
 Referees: 139

VOLUNTEERS

5 Counties: Total 50 Volunteers

OTHER EVENTS

Ashcombe Volleyball Tournament: 1000 players
 Guildford, East Grinstead, Newbury, East Hants Tournaments: Total of 500 players
 Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix
 Student Cup Qualifying Events
 Beach Volleyball courts and events at Brighton Yellowave, Worthing, Margate and Southsea



EAST MIDLANDS VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.eastmidlandsvb.com

COMPETITIONS

Regional 6 women's teams, 12 men's teams, 5 Inter County Junior Grand Prix Competitions
 Lincs 8 teams, 130 players
 Leics 10 teams, 185 players
 Notts 9 teams, 130 players, 5 junior teams, 50 players
 Derbys 6 teams, 90 players, 1 junior team, 15 players
 Northants 14 teams, 220 players, 5 Junior Grand Prix's, 100+ players
 BUCS 21 teams

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 36
 Coaches: 88
 Referrees: 59

OTHER EVENTS

Nottingham Big Weekend Participants: 110 participants
 Go Spike Sessions: 9 Go Spike Session with a total of 656 players taking part
 UKCC Level 2 Nottingham 16 learners
 UKCC Level 1 Kettering 16 learners
 New Beach initiative running every Tuesday night at Loughborough University with average 45 players registering for 5 competitions every week



LONDON VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.londonvolleyball.org.uk

COMPETITIONS

London League:		
Division	Players	Teams
MP	171	8
M1A	119	8
M1B	129	8
M2A	143	8
M2B	139	8
Men Total	701	40
WP	144	8
W1	147	8
W2A	124	9
W2B	158	9
Women Total	573	34
Total	1274	74

National League:
 London clubs featured 11 Men's teams and 7 Women's teams, with 232 players in total.

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 65
 Coaches: 74
 Referees: 100

VOLUNTEERS

Cormac Byrne did some work with the London Federation of Sport and Recreation, which resulted in another two of our volunteers receiving Long Term Awards, with more in June 2015.

OTHER EVENTS

The Invictus Games was hosted in London in September 2014. The Finals of the Sitting Volleyball competition in the Copper Box Arena attracted the biggest audience for volleyball in England outside of the Olympic Games. Around 5000 people attended the final.

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION REPORTS



NORTHWEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

<https://sites.google.com/site/nwvolleyballassociation/>

COMPETITIONS

Lancashire League:
Men 5 teams

Preston League:
Men 9 teams

Greater Manchester League:
Men 11 teams
Women 8 teams
Mixed 3 teams
U14 GP 16 teams
U16 5 teams
College GP 14 teams

Merseyside League:
Men 12 teams
Women 11 teams

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 48
Coaches: 66
Referees: 50

VOLUNTEERS

The Region is supported by a number of key volunteers throughout the year and extremely grateful for their assistance and support, in particular, Lenny Barry, Christine Cox, Brian Kendall, Adam Gillibrand and Richard Lee.

OTHER EVENTS

Grass Grand Prix comprising four events in Salford, Liverpool, Preston and Chester once a month over the summer and each attracted a total of 30+ teams across men, women and mixed categories.

Manchester Investment Zone also ran a Let's Play Volleyball Festival for schools, attracting over 100 teams.



EASTERN VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION

www.ipswichvc.org.uk

COMPETITIONS

The Eastern Volleyball Federation does not operate as a Region but the six counties all function independently

Cambridgeshire has seven Clubs competing in their league and run a well organised weekend tournament at the Cambridge Rugby Football Club every summer. Both Men and Women's teams also play in the NVL.

Bedfordshire has no organised league but friendly matches take place between the local clubs.

Essex has 14 teams playing in their Mixed Division and eight teams play in the Women's Division. Teams also compete in their Handicap Cup, KO Cup and Plate competitions. This year over 70 junior teams took part in JUVO which celebrated its 29th year. Both Men's and Women's teams also play in the NVL.

Hertfordshire has 14 teams competing in their Men's competitions, with eight teams in their Women's League. They also organise a KO Cup Competition. Both Men's and Women's teams also play in the NVL.

Norfolk has six teams competing in their Men's competition, five teams in the Ladies Division and 12 teams in their Mixed Division. They also organise successful 2v2 Indoor Leagues for Men, Women and Mixed teams.

They host the Regional League as well, which consists of a series of one day tournaments. Both Men's and Women's teams also play in the NVL.

Suffolk has eight Clubs that play in a variety of competitions including an open outdoor tournament, the Suffolk Cup, Handicap League and indoor four-a-side competitions. One Men's team play in the NVL.

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 45
Coaches: 111
Referees: 46



SOUTH WEST VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

www.swva.org.uk

COMPETITIONS

Kernow from Cornwall were winners of the SW Mens League, City of Bristol were runners up. In the Women's League Yeovil took top slot, pipping Torexe to the title. Yeovil, Plymouth Mayflower and Beach Academy have applied for the Women's NVL for next season. The SW Championships ran over two days in Plymouth in May, with City of Bristol taking the Men's title and Bristol Ladies, the Women's title. The Veterans Tournament in November produced a reduced entry of eight teams. Congratulations went to the winners, Wiltshire Old Vets. In junior competitions, the SW Mini Volleyball Grand Prix took place through the winter over four events. This year we picked up increased entries after last year's decline, although we are concerned at the lack of boys' entries. The SW Junior Squads have continued with a full programme of training, subsidised by SWVA. Members of the National Office staff were able to see the excellent programme first hand at the Volleyball Roadshow in Exeter. Congratulations go to the SW teams for their strong performances in the IRC.

AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Clubs: 77
Coaches: 121
Referees: 70

OTHER EVENTS

The 2014 SW Junior Beach Tour saw a reduced number of events and entries and we are working hard to redevelop the series. Special mention should be made of the Sandbanks Tournament which once again hosted the British Junior Beach Championships and a leg of the Junior VEBT, attracting 140 junior teams in 18 competitions. In addition, 40 adult teams played in three 4-a-side competitions. This year, they hope to host a beach sitting competition.

2014 saw the Whitefield Tournament celebrate its 40th anniversary. Unfortunately it has lost its Bath venue and will this year take place at a new venue, South Bristol Sports Centre, with a record entry of 150 teams. 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.

2014 - 15 ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS



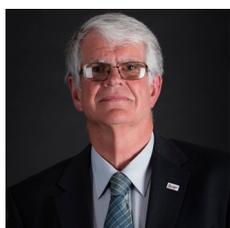
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE
CAROL GORDON



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE
KEITH TRENAM



SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION
TO VOLLEYBALL
JANET INMAN



PETER WARDALE AWARD
PAUL BOHANNAN

TOWERGATE YOUNG COACH OF THE YEAR
MATTHEW RHYMER

MAROON PRINT CHILDREN'S COACH OF THE YEAR
JIM KEATING

QDOS CONSULTING PARTICIPATION COACH OF THE YEAR
HOWARD AINSWORTH

MICROTRADING PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT
COACH OF THE YEAR
NICK DAVIES

FLUID OVERALL COACH OF THE YEAR
JIM KEATING

SPORTING EQUALS YOUNG OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR
WILL MCDONALD

M-HANCE REFEREE OF THE YEAR
JOHN MICHEAL ROFFEY

THE LONDON SPORTS INJURY CLINIC SERVICES TO REFEREEING
STEVE EVANS

BDO YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
STEPHANIE (HOI KI) FU
NOTTINGHAM ROCKETS

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
BEVERLEY COOPER

SOUTH HANTS VOLLEYBALL CLUB
SIDEOUT LONG SERVICE AWARD
DAVID SPEERS
LEEDS VC

MIZUNO HEVO OF THE YEAR
HOLLY MOWBRAY
UNIVERSITY OF DERBY

SGTV EVENT OF THE YEAR
WOLLATON HALL PARK GO SPIKE EVENT

GERFLOOR PLAY OF THE YEAR
NORTHUMBRIA "KICK SET SPIKE"
TEAM NORTHUMBRIA

SPORTSET CLUB OF THE YEAR
WOMBOURNE VOLLEYBALL CLUB

SPONSORS

Towergate Young Coach of the Year
Maroon Print Children's Coach of the Year
Qdos Consulting Participation Coach of the Year
Microtrading Performance Development Coach of the Year
Fluid Overall Coach of the Year
Sporting Equals Young Official of the Year
M-Hance Referee of the Year
The London Sports Injury Clinic Services to Refereeing
BDO Young Volunteer of the Year
Holiday Inn Express Volunteer of the Year
South Hants Volleyball Club SideOut Long Service Award
Mizuno HEVO of the Year
SGTV Event of the Year
Gerfloor Play of the Year
Sportset Club of the Year

2014 - 15 ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS



WOMBOURNE VOLLEYBALL CLUB



MATTHEW RHYMER



NICK DAVIES



WILL MCDONALD



JOHN MICHEAL ROFFEY



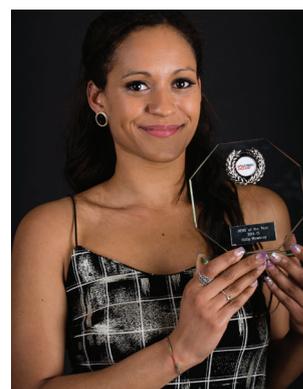
STEPHANIE (HOI KI) FU



BEVERLEY COOPER



DAVID SPEERS



HOLLY MOWBRAY

2014 - 15 ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

LEAGUE WINNERS

Women's Div 3 South -
Bristol 2

Women's Div 3 Central -
Oxford Ladies

Women's Div 3 North - DARKSTAR
Derbyshire

Women's Div 2 South -
Worthing VC

Women's Div 2 North -
Team Durham

Women's Div 1 -
Tendring VC Ladies

Women's Super 8s -
Team Northumbria

Men's Div 3 South West -
Arun-VC

Men's Div 3 South East - EBC Greenhouse
(London)

Men's Div 3 Central - Peterborough Harriers
Men

Men's Div 3 North -
City of Sheffield 2

Men's Div 2 South - Solent 2

Men's Div 2 North -
Team Birmingham

Men's Div 1- Leeds VC

Men's Super 8s -
Team Northumbria

MVPS

Women's Div 3 South -
Laura Konopectka – Richmond VB

Women's Div 3 Central -
Sonia De Munari – Oxford Ladies

Women's Div 3 North -
Angela Leo – Manchester Marvels 2

Women's Div 2 South -
Blanka Wood – South Hants

Women's Div 2 North -
Nicola Breaks – Leeds VC

Women's Div 1 -
Andrea Lei – Oxford Students & Malgorzata Kowalska – Team
Birmingham VC

Women's Super 8s -
Mara Mata – Team South Wales, Virag Farkas – City of Salford VC,
Megan Jean-Ann Hodges – City of Salford VC & Alexandra Vajdova –
Swiss Cottage

Men's Div 3 South West -
Josef Antos – Wiltshire Mavericks

Men's Div 3 South East -
Javier Bello – Richmond VB 2

Men's Div 3 Central -
Michael Grainger – RAF Harriers & Jack Burvill – Nottingham Rockets

Men's Div 3 North -
Mateusz Krzyzanowski – Blyth Valley

Men's Div 2 South -
Aaron Robertson – Solent 2

Men's Div 2 North -
Nick Shardlow – Loughborough Students & Callum Currie –
Northumbria/Middlesbrough Academy

Men's Div 1 - Roland Herczeg – Leeds & Marcio Silveira – London
Knights LS KVC

Men's Super 8s -
Nathan French – Team Northumbria, Kieran O'Malley – London
Docklands & Taylor Wilson – London Lynx 1

Men's Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix Most Valuable Player - Darryl Tring

Women's Sitting Volleyball Grand Prix Most Valuable Player -
Danni Hampson-Carroll

Junior Beach Players of the Year - Harry Jones, Ryan Poole & Ellie Austin

Men's VEBT Champions Race Winner - Phil Smith

Women's VEBT Champions Race Winner - Jess Grimson

VOLLEYBALL
ENGLAND
Super 8s

FINANCE REPORT

Whilst I can't now remember when I first encountered Murphy's Law ("anything that can go wrong, will go wrong"), it has certainly become a mantra in my career as an accountant. In some ways this is good – when the worst doesn't happen, it's got to be all good then – and in some ways it's bad – does optimism countered by pessimism become reality, or just a source of unnecessary conflict? So where does this pessimism evidence itself? In our Reserves Policy. Without Reserves, as a company, our future is uncertain, even precarious. That is not what we want. We want a firm and stable base to build a bright future – and weather any storms that may arise along that journey to the Promised Land.

This year we encountered such a storm – a legal dispute relating to contracts that ended in 2006. It turned our budgeted break even into a realised £40k loss – the first substantial loss in my tenure on the Board. Did it take us off track? No, we just worked harder and more resourcefully to keep ourselves on course. Was the ship about to flounder, even run aground? Again, no. Our Reserves kept us well above water and allowed us to focus on delivering our commitments. Will this happen again? I'm a pessimist, yes. Will the same thing happen again? No, we're a different organisation now. We've developed. We've changed. We've improved.



John Boughton
Finance Director

One aspect of that improvement from a Finance point of view is the implementation of a new accounting system to replace our ageing Sage one. The improved management information that this will provide will undoubtedly bring benefits to our operations.

But some things don't change and in this respect I'm pleased to be able to say that the accounts for the Association for the year ended 31 March 2015 which follow this report have been passed without comment from our external auditors, BDO, once again. The Finance team of Dirk George and Sandra Andrews, ably led by Martin Lindsey again deserve credit for this, as well as their ongoing control and due diligence work.

Our Balance Sheet remains strong and broadly similar to last year, with Creditors more than covered by available cash balances. This continues the degree of flexibility we have which is not afforded to all organisations and necessary given our small Fixed Asset base.

We have made progress on lessening our dependence on Government funding, although the fruits of this activity will only start to appear during this year. So progress is being made but is equally not an overnight process. I look forward to continuing that journey with you.

ENGLISH VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED (A company limited by guarantee)

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Note	2015 £	2014 £
TURNOVER	1,2	2,061,169	2,220,906
Administrative expenses		(2,104,893)	(2,203,764)
OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT	3	(43,724)	17,142
Interest receivable and similar income		2,765	3,123
(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(40,959)	20,265
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	4	(546)	(625)
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	10	(41,505)	19,640

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

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

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

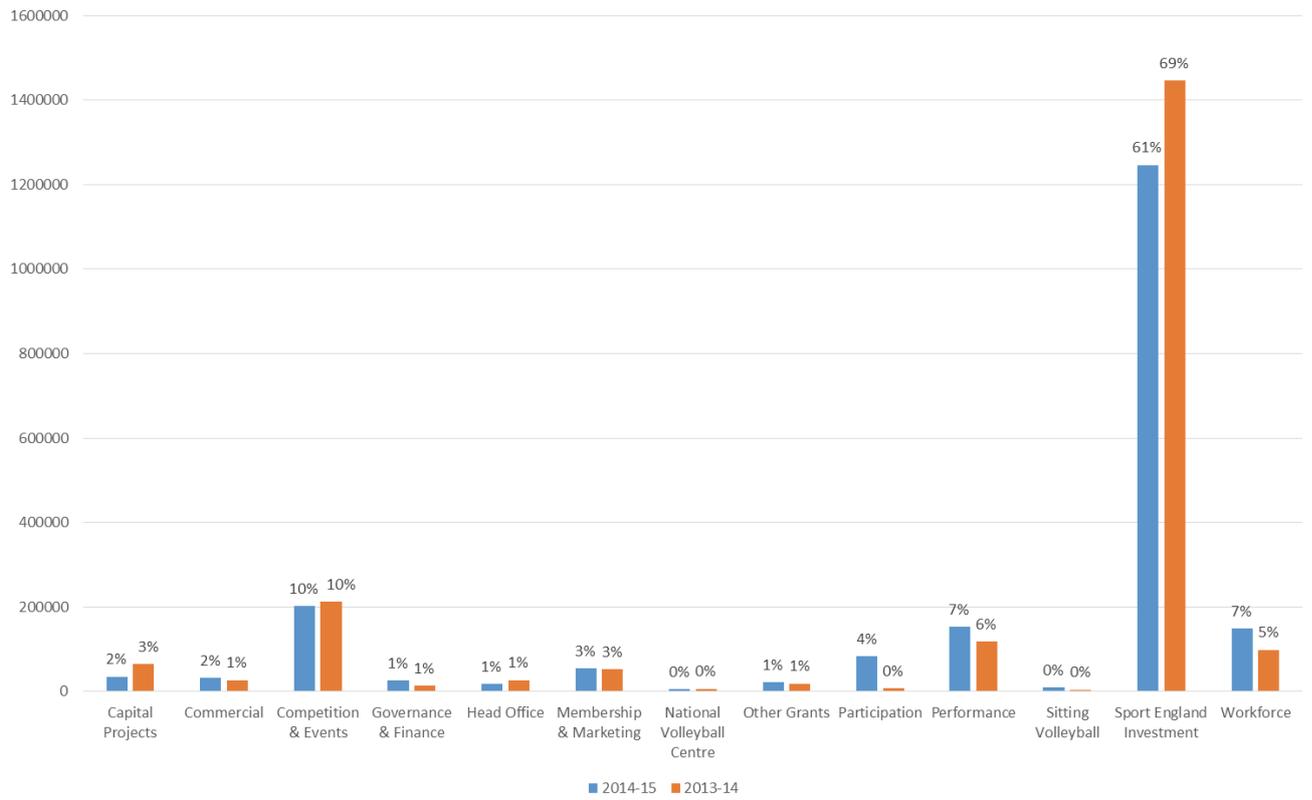
	Note	£	2015 £	£	2014 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5		61,034		103,517
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		35,558		34,678	
Debtors	6	256,444		240,516	
Cash at bank and in hand		349,393		420,922	
		<u>641,395</u>		<u>696,116</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(300,351)</u>		<u>(356,050)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>341,044</u>		340,066
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>402,078</u>		<u>443,583</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	8		<u>(1,938)</u>		<u>(1,938)</u>
NET ASSETS			<u><u>400,140</u></u>		<u><u>441,645</u></u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Profit and loss account	10		<u>400,140</u>		<u>441,645</u>
			<u><u>400,140</u></u>		<u><u>441,645</u></u>

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

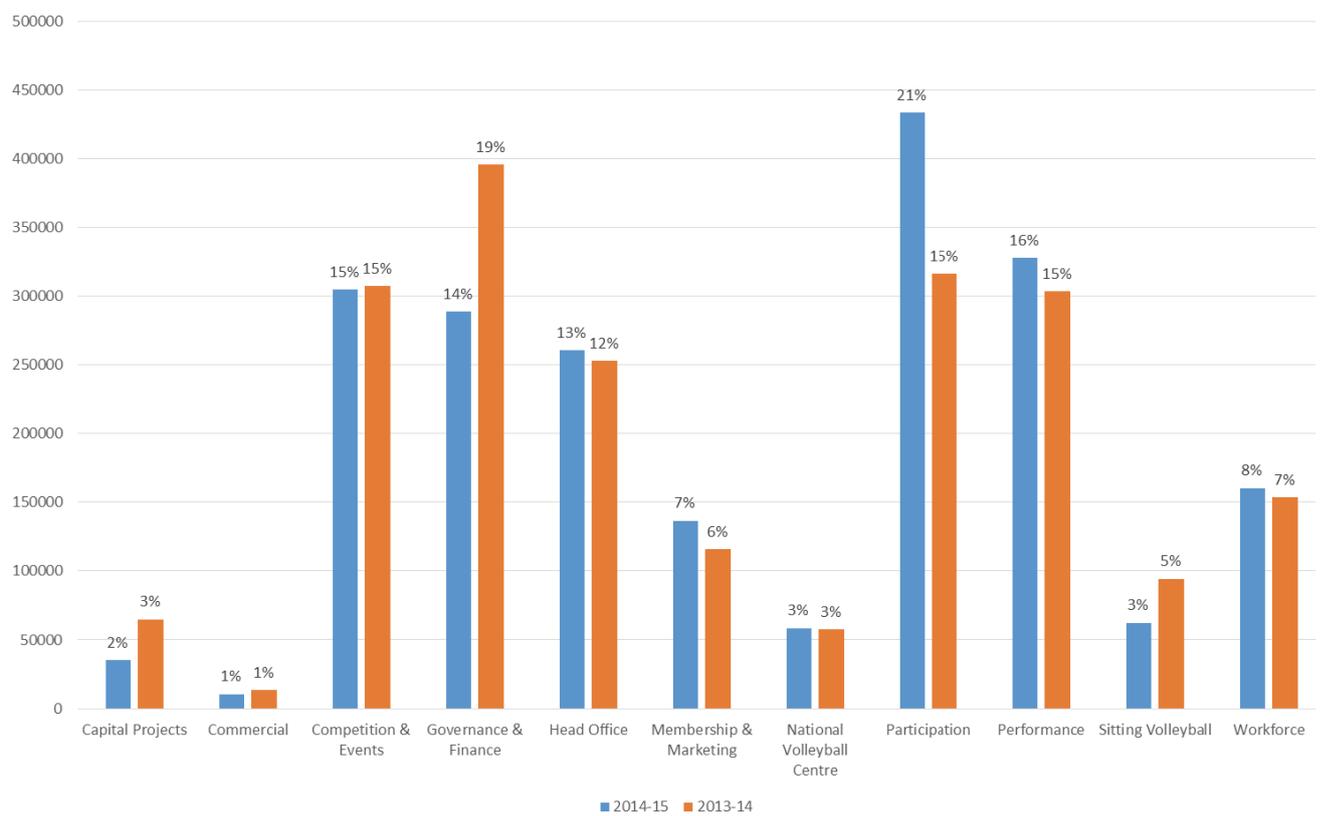
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf by:

G C A Allen
Director

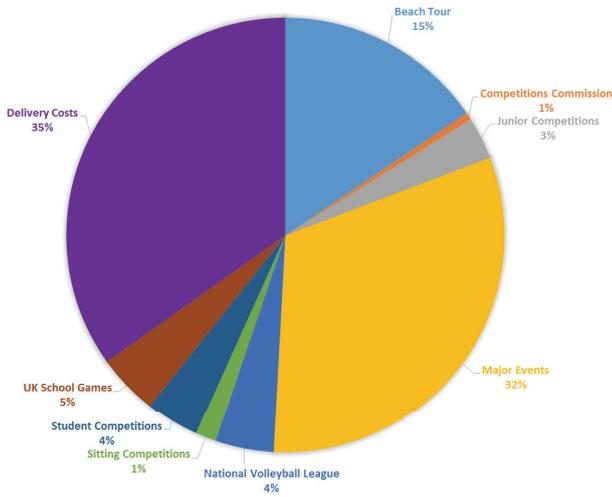
VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND INCOME SUMMARY 2014-15



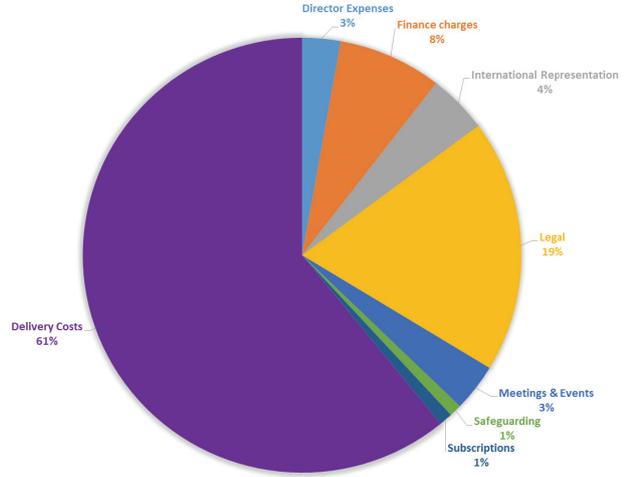
VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY 2014-15



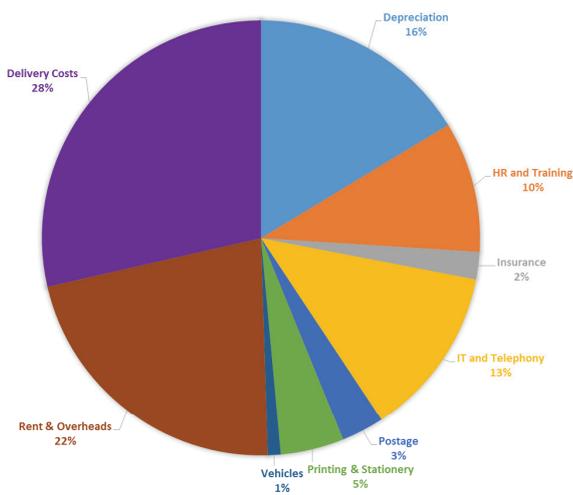
**COMPETITION & EVENTS EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(15% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



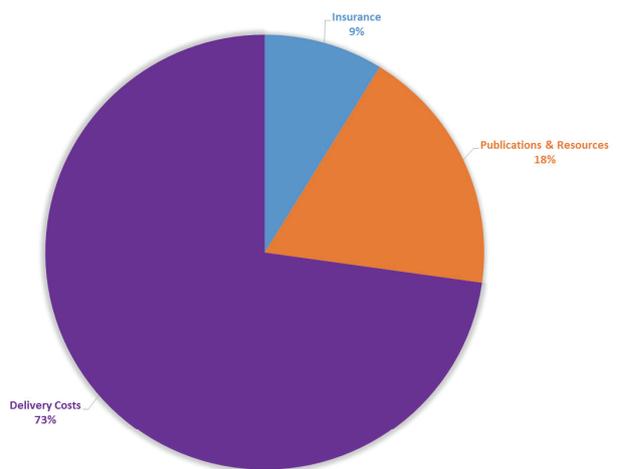
**GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(14% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



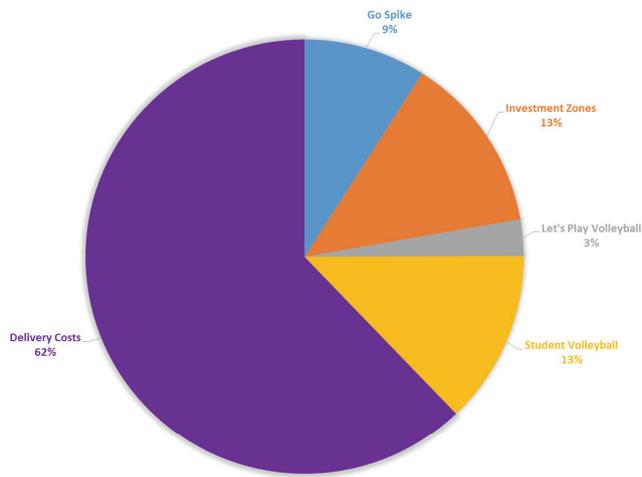
**HEAD OFFICE EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(13% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



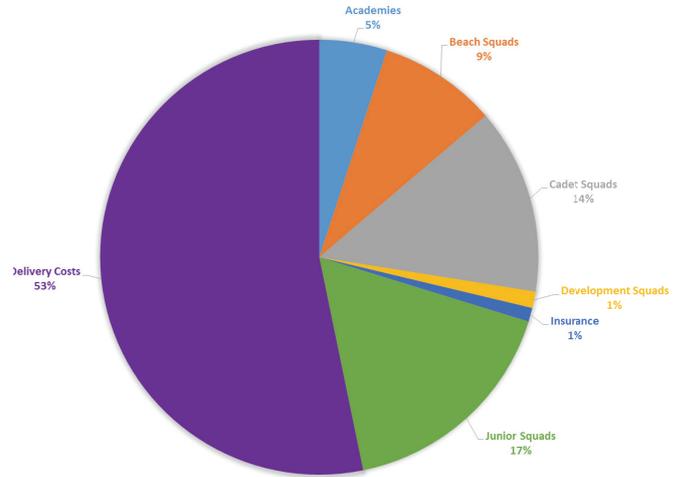
**MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(7% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



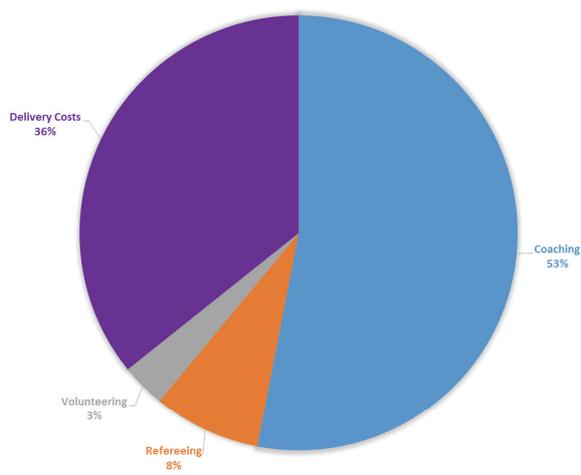
**PARTICIPATION EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(21% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



**PERFORMANCE EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(16% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



**WORKFORCE EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS
(8% OF OVERALL EXPENDITURE)**



THANK YOU PAGE

Thank you to all our superb volunteers and wonderful partners.

Our thanks go to all staff, stakeholders, County Sports Partnerships 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.

The directors who served during the year were:

G C A Allen
K S Nicholls
J A Williams
D M Lane
W A Roberts
R A Cook
A J P Boughton
S Matthews
J E Mutton
B Treadwell
T E Watkinson

Company secretary
M Lindsey





SportPark
Loughborough University
3 Oakwood Drive
Loughborough
LE11 3QF
Tel: 01509 227722

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 Volleyball England. 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
www.volleyballengland.org