



SWVA Newsletter September 2021 Issue 361

As Beach and Grass start to wind down for the year, our attention switches to the indoors season.

We had an excellent response to our request last months for additional coaches to come and join the SW Inter Region Championship coaching program. I would therefore like to welcome Anthony Balson, Florenie Ermeje and Laura Woodruff to the team, all will be starting their journey with us as assistant coaches for the 2021/22 season.

- Junior SW Training, next session will be this Saturday in Bristol, over 50 juniors already booked in, details below.
- SW Vets - Just one place left, again details below.
- Some updates on the SW League.
- Next SWVA meeting - 2nd Oct - on line, details next time.

As always, lots of great work being done across the region for the new season, a couple of excellent positions still available on this years team; SW Junior Development Officer and SW Vice-Chairman. Interested, then let us know and we can point you in the right direction with some interesting projects to get involved with. Ideal for our older players, it's all about putting your experience back into the sport.

Regards

Dave Reece

SW Junior Training 2021-22



We are please to announce that we are back in business with our U15 & U17 South West Junior monthly Training program for the 2021-22 season from September to April next year.

- The training is run to offer opportunities for young players to improve their play by working with the regional squad coaches.
- To have the opportunity to meet other young players from around the region and enjoy working with a large 'same age group'.
- To prepare Regional Representative teams to compete in the National Inter Regional Championships.

All sessions are open to all juniors in the SWVA Region (SW Eng, S. Wales), the first will be in Wellsway LC in Bristol, the U15's will be in Parkstone Grammer, Poole in October but everything else will be at the Riverside LC in Exeter (which has now fully re-opened following the fire four years ago).

Age groups is the school year, this means that you must be Under 15 or U17 on August 31st 2021. Girls & Boys younger than 13 may train by prior agreement.



You will need to [Book & Pay](#) for each session in advance. The sessions are £12 (3h) or £15 (4h), depending on the length of each session and currently limited to 27 players.

All bookings will close on the preceding Friday evening at 23:45 and payments will be non refundable or transferable. If you have a credit or voucher from an earlier session, please enter the ticket code in the “Do you have a promo code”.

Date & Venue

- 18th Sep 2021 – Bristol (Wellsway)
- 9th Oct 2021 – Poole, Parkstone Grammar [U15's Only]
- 16th Oct 2021 – Exeter Riverside LC [U17's Only]
- 20th Nov 2021 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 4th Dec 2021 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 15th Jan 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 29th Jan 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 19th Feb 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC

- 5th Mar 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 12th Mar 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC
- 2nd Apr 2022 – Exeter Riverside LC

Details at: <https://www.swva.org.uk/south-west-junior-training>

SW Vets 2021 Update



Just to say, one place left in this years planned SW Vets event.....

We are planning to hold our popular SW Vets tournament this year on Sunday 28th November 2021 at Riverside Leisure Centre in Exeter. This is of course dependent on Covid restrictions being lifted sufficiently that we can have enough people in the sports hall to allow the event to run – TBC.

Teams Entered so far:

- Bem VC
- Bem VC 2

- Cardiff Silver Dragons
- Cheltenham & Gloucester
- Countymen
- Gloucester Eagles
- PMVC Vets
- Torexe Saga Louts
- Wiltshire Allsorts
- Wiltshire Mavericks 1
- Wiltshire Mavericks 2

Closing date for entries – 16th October 2021

All players must be at least 35 years old.

[SW Vets Booking](#)

Player Registrations for 2021-22 Now Open



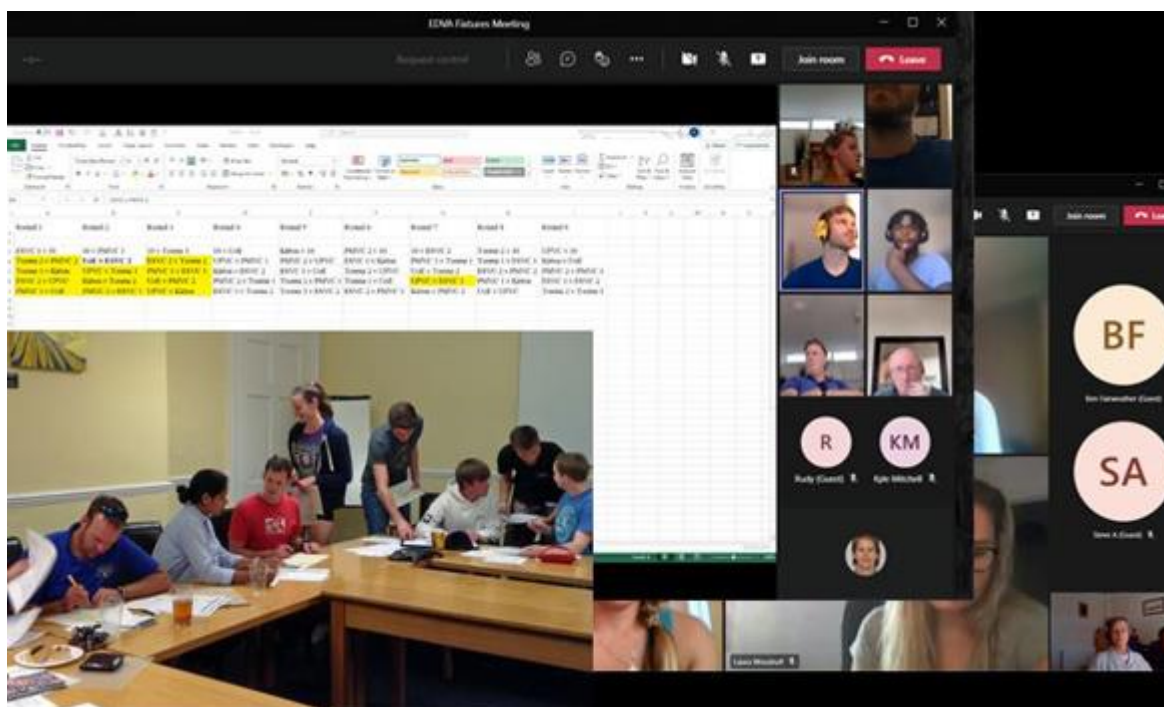
SW League Player registrations for the 2021-22 season starts on the 1st September, Clubs, Coaches and Players can now register via the [Player](#)

[Registration](#) page. The team contact, the club secretary or the club coaches are responsible for registering all players and presenting the “SWVA Team Sheet” to the match or tournament officials.

Players can also register themselves using their club user ID, player registration is from 1st September to the 31st August. Once registered, players names will appear on the appropriate team list.

Player photos are optional but always nice to have and this year the Team Sheet will also include the Covid contact phone number for each player. So the home club / Venue / Covid Office can retain the sheet as required.

Fixture Meeting Moves Online



We are all having to learn new skills at the moment, some turn out to be good and at the EDVA League (Devon & W. Somerset), we learnt a new one last week. The annual fixture meeting is where we normally lock everyone into a

single room to fight it out in uncontrolled close combat, until we have a set of home & away fixtures for each team.

Most things get sorted but Universities normally can't make it at this time of year so its not perfect, with Covid ruling out a small room with lots of people this year, a different solution was required.

Rob Young, our Fixture's sec came up with the idea of using the Breakout Room feature which is available in MS Teams. All 22 teams took part, each of the three divisions were allocated a different time period, and with Rob acting as MC for the event, team contacts were placed into a Breakout Room (based on a random fixture generator to avoid preferences) to arrange their home & away fixtures with each other. Once done, you returned to the lobby for Rob to move you on to your next round.

Good points: No travel time, All teams and Universities attended, majority of 2021/22 Fixtures agreed on the night, usual few awkward ones being sorted during the ratification period, plus we saved £20 in room booking fees.

SW Match Guidelines for 2021/22



No congratulatory touches or handshakes, teams are recommended to line up on the 3m line and to applaud the opposition

We are all looking forward to getting back to a near normal SW League season this year but we still have to be aware of Covid issues. With respect to that, all teams have been sent a Covid appendix to the normal SW League rules.

NB: We have started doing the line up at the end of training, it works quite well.

Recommendations

The SWVA recommends that the following guidance is followed at all matches:

- Use of electronic/squeezy whistles.
- Teams should maintain social distancing between teams as much as practical.
- Home teams should provide sanitizing wipes/equipment for cleaning volleyballs, seating, scoreboards, referees stands etc.
- Balls should be sanitised before the start of warmup, at timeouts and between sets.
- No shared food to be provided by host teams, all players must provide their own food for the day.
- No congratulatory touches and no handshakes. Teams are recommended to line up on the 3m line and applaud the opposition at the end of the game (as seen in the Olympics).
- Players should not put their belongings on chairs/benches allowing them to be wiped down easily when teams change ends.
- Referees should show tolerance to players encroaching onto court at time outs and between sets if required to prevent players having to group too close together.
- All teams should provide their own pens and do not have to sign the scoresheets if they give verbal approval to the scorer who can record this on the scoresheet.
- Scorers should regularly sanitise their hands whilst scoring.

Commitment

Teams must ensure that they have sufficient numbers to cope with 2 or 3 players self-isolating. All players attending matches do so on the understanding that taking part does constitute an increased transmission risk and they are opting in to participating in volleyball activity. The SWVA holds no responsibility if players should become infected at an event.

Match attendance

The following guidelines take into consideration the Volleyball England guidance as of 29 August 2021, <https://www.volleyballengland.org/coronavirus>

Players must NOT attend matches if any of the following apply to you:

- You have symptoms of COVID 19 (a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of sense of smell or taste) or are living in a household with a possible COVID 19 infection
- Have been asked to self-isolate by the NHS, your workplace or school or have returned from a country within the last 14 days which requires you to self-isolate
- Have had a recent positive test result (lateral flow or PCR) or are awaiting a PCR test result

Preparation for JuVoTo season 2021-22



Back in June those involved with junior volleyballs were invited to a meeting to discuss setting up the JuVoTo events for the coming season. There were attendees from club across the region including Bemi, Taunton, PMVC, Weston, Wessex, Royal Wootton Bassett and Calne with apologies from several other clubs.

All the clubs represented were keen to have competitive volleyball for their juniors and most had seen a significant growth in the number of juniors at their club.

Due to the extension of COVID-19 restrictions it was decided that it was not practical to put on a series of events over the summer. However everybody felt that indoor JuVoTo tournaments should go ahead (subject to there being no tightening of restrictions). As clubs were seeing more junior participation, it was felt that tournaments should be held at larger venues although an alternative might be to hold two satellite events at smaller venues on the same day (ideally in different parts of the region, for example events at Royal Wootton Bassett and Plymouth).



There was some discussion about whether the format of the events need to be modified in particular to reduce the burden on hosts. In particular it was felt that

late entries had been a problem and clubs needed to be recognise the work involved in adding (yet) another team the night before the event.

It was agreed that the dates for JuVoTo could not clash with the [IRC training](#) events but there was probably few juniors who would want to compete in JuVoTo and attend the national camps. Therefore the following weekends (in the recent past JuVoTo events have mainly been on a Saturday) have been proposed for JuVoTo events:

- 2 or 3 October
- 30 or 31 October
- 13 or 14 November
- 11 or 12 December
- 8 or 9 January
- 12 or 13 February
- 19 or 20 March

Until a Junior Development Officer can be found, Neil Bentley is coordinating the JuVoTo. What we need now is for clubs to volunteer to host an event. The club will need to agree to the [SWVA event licence](#) (available to logged in users).