

# HERTFORDSHIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2006 at the Rudolf Steiner School, Kings Langley

### Present

Alan Wilkins (Chairman)	Berkhamsted
Amanda Barraclough (Treasurer)	Watford
Nigel Collins	Milton Keynes
Tracey Wilkins	Barnet
Sebastien Flesch	Enfield
Graham Bird	Vale
Geert Alkema	Rudolf Steiner School
Mark Pascoe	Harriers
Kwok Ng	EVF

### Apologies

- Received from Steve Davies (Fixtures Secretary) and Geoff Dyson (Secretary). Fines for non-attendance to be issued to Welwyn/Hatfield, Abbey and Luton.

### Minutes of the last meeting

Read and accepted (emailed to clubs 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2005 and posted on the website)

Matters arising: none

### Reports

#### **Chairperson**

- Nothing to report

#### **Fixtures Secretary**

- (by email) Steve reiterated the importance of attaching match no.s to results sent in by email, and also sending in scoresheets as soon as the match is played. League matches should be completed by 7<sup>th</sup> May so the final tables can be drawn up before the Cup Final. All trophies need to be returned to Steve for engraving as soon as possible.

#### **Treasurer**

- All the fees have now been collected and the current bank balance is around £950.

#### **Junior Development Coordinator**

- See attached report

#### **Herts National League**

- See attached report. The request of an additional £100 to help with the unexpected expense of hosting the playoffs was thought to be reasonable and was therefore passed

### Introduction to Sit Volley

Kwok Ng was invited to talk about the possibility of initiating sitting volleyball (Sit Volley) in Hertfordshire. He presented a short history of disabled volleyball (Sit Volley in particular) and a summary of the rules. Sit Volley is now to be implemented as part of the Whole Sport Plan, and is incorporated into Level 1 Coaching Award and UKCC structure. Members of the current Sit Volley Steering Group are Gordon Neale, Tom Middleton, Gary Beckford, Sarah Philipott, Mike Bishop and Kwok Ng. More information can be found on [www.wovd.info](http://www.wovd.info) and [www.ecvd.hu](http://www.ecvd.hu)

Kwok was keen to raise awareness of the sport and encourage clubs to try to include it in their club programmes. Club representatives were sceptical at first as they had little or no contact with disabled people who wanted to play volleyball. However, Kwok stressed that Sit Volley is not exclusively for disabled people, but a way in which disabled people can be included in volleyball as a sport. The main issue at present is to raise awareness of the sport and get people trying it out, even informally.

**Recommended initial actions:**

Disseminate information about Sit Volley to club members and assess interest in the sport.

You don't need to have the participation of disabled people to start Sit Volley sessions – you can try Sit Volley with able-bodied players first and get the sessions going.

Consider hiring a smaller hall or court to start with - squash courts make excellent temporary Sit Volley courts and are a fraction of the cost.

**Next Steps:**

Approach local Sports Development Officers to ask if there is any interest in Sit Volley in the area

Approach Special Needs Schools

Approach local disability groups and Rehabilitation Hospitals to assess interest

The EVF will help with providing coaching courses and possibly the loan of equipment such as posts and net should there be a demand. Anyone wanting to get in touch with Kwok can do so via the [www.volleyball.co.uk](http://www.volleyball.co.uk) website. (under eastern region referee coordinator)

On an entirely different matter, Kwok will shortly be sending out a referee register questionnaire and would like to encourage as many clubs as possible to respond.

**KO Cup Final**

- Two refs (Ryszard Dabrowski and Darryl Collins) have been secured to officiate at the Final. Two line judges from each of the teams will be required to assist the refs.
- The women will play first at 12pm and, as agreed at the AGM, the time of the second match will be brought forward to 4pm to avoid a long pause in between. The women's finalists are Watford and Berkhamsted. The Men's finalists are still unconfirmed. The possibility of a junior match before the official Finals was raised. This was thought to be a good idea – Dawn Graceson to be contacted to see if this might be possible.
- Alan mentioned that he had been approached by members of a steel band to see whether they might play at the Finals/Presentation. This was also thought to be a good idea.
- Geert confirmed that the boys from the school will be running a fund raising barbeque again.
- An outdoor net will also be put up for anyone wishing to play friendly games during the day (weather permitting)

**AOB**

- Paul Westhead will be running a Level 2 coaching course in September (might be 3 separate days or three weekends). Please could all representatives publicise the course and encourage people to attend. Paul is hoping to follow this on with a Level 3 course in 2007.
- Veterans Tournament – Eric is coordinating the Herts entry for this year. The tournament is on 13<sup>th</sup> May and training for the event will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> April 5-7pm and 7<sup>th</sup> May 5-7pm both at Berkhamsted Sports Centre. Please circulate this information to clubmembers and ask them to contact Eric if they are interested in playing.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

The next meeting will be the AGM, which will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 8.00pm at the Rudolf Steiner School.