

Members Meeting – Question and Answer Session

In Attendance		
Board of Directors		
Scott Borthwick	Jean Bruce	Ian Girot
Leigh Watson		
Staff Members		
Margaret Ann Fleming	Simon Epps	Veronica Rusich
Blair Pettigrew	Rowan Johnston	Felipe Humana-Paredes
John Scrimgeour	Ailien Pallot	
Member Clubs		
Edinburgh Jets	City of Edinburgh	Volleyball Dundee
Su Rugazzi	University of Edinburgh	Volleyball Aberdeen
Referees' Commission		

Edinburgh Jets asked:

Question	Are there plans to improve the current Scottish Volleyball (SV) website?
Answer	SV are currently in the process of reviewing the website. We are in the initial stages of going out to tender to replace what we currently have. Replacing the website is a priority and we will take great care to ensure publishing results is a focus for any proposal.
Action	Go out to tender for new website 2023.

Question	How can we get more people watching the sport. Can we schedule matches on Friday evening or Saturday noon?
Answer	Scheduling of weekend games are up to clubs, no requirement on time on Saturdays. Anything else needs buy in from teams.
Action	None.

City of Edinburgh asked:

Question	Will clubs be consulted when changes such as updating the website happen?
Answer	SV have plans to involve the membership a lot more with upcoming decisions and will organise meetings with the member base.
Action	Organise meeting with member base during the process of updating the website.

Question	Why do SV not hold annual general meetings (AGMs)?
Answer	AGMs are no longer a requirement for limited companies. The decision was made to not hold AGMs as there was a difficulty in getting people/clubs to participate.
Action	An annual members meeting is now scheduled continuing in 2024 over the cup semi-final weekend.

Question	Are SV looking into sponsorship as an option for funding?
Answer	Lines such as FIVB and CEV on presentation count as sponsors. Beyond that sponsors tend not to last too long and do not raise much. Easier to attach them to events and need numbers to justify sponsorship i.e., number of people and income of events.
Action	All potential avenues for sponsorship to be investigated by SV

Question	What is being done to include more coaching courses for clubs?
Answer	There are currently 2 issues with coaching course. Firstly, there are a limited number of people who can deliver coaching courses and they have limited availability. Secondly, there is a large cost to put these on both in timing and finances. The course lasts 3 days and costs up to £1500 and there hasn't been enough demand to warrant this. Some level 3 courses are planned, but the logistics are proving difficult.
Action	SV and City of Edinburgh to liaise directly to organise level 2 coaching course. New HP Coaching Manager to prepare a coaching programme for season 2023/24

Question	Why has there been a reduction in school activity?
Answer	SV hasn't been able to go into schools until very recently. Schools are not prepared to pay for transport. SV are trying to kickstart back to pre-covid activity levels. Schools are slowly coming back on, but staffing is low and there are not many venues. A plan to kick on in next academic year.
Action	SV to continue focus on schools including school festivals.

Question	Why are SV hosting the U20 championships in 2024? What value are going to take from this event and what is the long-term benefit of hosting?
Answer	The priority is around getting women involved in sport and to use this as a platform to play in Europe.
Action	None

Question	Is this forum to be held annually?
Answer	Not necessarily in the same format, but the plan is for something like this to be regular.
Action	Schedule annual members meetings and informing clubs/members early.

Su Rugazzi asked:

Question	What is SV doing to support clubs getting to Shetland to play?
Answer	The league and cup are national competitions and Shetland have a right to compete and must travel themselves to away days.
Action	Contact travel companies to try to get sponsorship for club travel to Shetland.

Question	Are there any plans to work towards a British league?
Answer	SV has been in discussion with Volleyball England which currently has no desire for a British league
Action	Continue discussions with the other home nations

Question	In the current league structure, a team can go unbeaten all season and lose one game in the play-offs and not win the league. Can this be investigated?
Answer	This is how volleyball works globally. The structure is in place for you to win games to qualify for the playoffs. The plan is to make the league as big as the cup, so the playoff games present an opportunity to do that. Focus to ensure there are more high stakes matches in the calendar to help with development of the sport.
Action	Competitions officer to continue discussions on this area with clubs and members

Question	Q1. What is the budget for U20 championships 2024? Q2. Follow-up question from City of Edinburgh – will the budget be shared?
Answer	A1. The budget has yet to be finalised. A2. This potentially could be shared in the future, though no requirement to do so.
Action	None.

Question	To each individual Board member, where do you see SV once the strategic plan has been implemented in 2028?
Answer	Leigh Watson – Put volleyball on the map in Scotland. See it owned more by clubs, more info shared. More leagues and more teams in junior leagues. Jean Bruce – Veterans league and improvement in line judging, scoring and quality of adjudicating. Ian Girot – Does not have a volleyball background, brought onto board for financial experience. A focus should be put on schools. Scott Borthwick – Would like there to be a greater understanding that SV is for the members.
Action	None.

Referees' Commission asked:

Question	What is being done to keep staff and volunteer turnover down?
Answer	Volleyball is a niche sport in the UK and therefore SV is struggling to get knowledgeable people employed. Plan demonstrates that SV is looking to recruit people, the new workforce officer will be responsible for volunteer development this position is currently vacant therefore there is nobody for now, staff and commissions are pitching in to support volunteer recruitment.
Action	Recruit for vacant positions.