

BVA Meeting 2014-09-18

Attendees:

Maïté Braud - Chair (Oxford)
Dave Fox - Fixtures Secretary (Reading Aces)
James Murphy - Treasurer (Maidenhead)
Sue Sayers - Youth Development Officer (Newbury)
Izik Goldfarb - Referee & Coach Coordinator (Spikeopaths)
James "Eddy" Edwards - Webmaster (Spikeopaths)
Rob McMenamin (Reading Uni)
Jason Wakefield (Farnborough)
Andrea & Tom & Eric (Oxford Uni)
Iva Fletcher - Secretary (Farnborough)

Absent:

Didcot
Newbold
Basingstoke

Minutes

1. Welcome from Chair

2. Fixtures 2014/2015

- Everyone happy with the league structure of 2 men's, 2 ladies', 1 mixed division.
- 11 teams in the mixed division would mean 20 games for each team to play each team twice to keep it fair, but that is too much. Compromise is to have 16 games, with a bias to local teams for the 2nd game.
Cannot split into 2 divisions and have 5 teams only playing 4 games against each other at 1 fixture a week.
- Well done Dave & Maïté for making it all fit.

3. Junior league

- Going ahead, Oxford, Newbury and Reading Aces are in.
- Will be best played as Grand Prix with 5-6 dates set in advance. The tournaments will be open to all clubs, even those who don't play normally.
- Action on Maïté to send dates to all BVA clubs and some schools, starting with 11-Oct & 8-Nov. Sue will take reservations.
- Teams: players will be split according to ability or age (as young as 5, applying catch & throw method). Fees of £15 per team, or use grant if available.
- Long nets will be used with sliders on the wall and a supporting post in the middle. Many Berkshire schools were given out sliders and long nets, so we might ask for them if the schools don't make any use of the equipment.
Newbury might lend 2 long nets and maybe a pair of wall sliders.

4. Development league

- Always as mixed teams. The 3 tournaments went well last season.
- Will take place on 3 Saturdays, dates will be published about 2 months in advance. Space only for 3-4 teams, so participate on first come, first served basis.
- Costs about £60 team / fixture.
- Newbury will probably be hosting. Farnborough's venue is a back up (widely available but not central enough).
- A scrap team will be available if interested players don't have a team.
- Action on Eddy to embed google calendar into BVA website.
- Action on Maïté to send out e-mails to clubs.

5. Clubs' cost models

- Clubs work in different ways to raise the money and it would be good to share the knowledge. Maïté will prepare spreadsheet which we can share next meeting.

6. Referee / coaching course

- Sometimes there were no qualified referees available for matches in the past. Izik has applied for grant to maintain the number of referees in the BVA league.
- The course of 7th September was well attended (14 candidates); first time condensed into 1 day. Next course might be open for 4th January if there's a grant and enough applicants.
- Sue's tip is to check with Luke Thomas (l.thomas@topflightvolley.com; Coaches Commission Member at V.E.) about how

to get grants for coaching courses; which is relatively cheap as a minority sport. Also check with your own council as grants are available.

7. **BVA Plate**

- Priority is to secure venue for BVA Plate, as play-offs are easier to arrange.
- Avoid bank holidays.
- Bradfield College doesn't take bookings so much in advance, maybe Kendrick can be booked now. Action on Maïté to phone.

8. **Website**

- Clubs have to enter the match results themselves even when they give the top sheet to the committee ; i.e. they have to copy the necessary details before handing it in.
Action on Maïté to send out instructions on how to submit results.
- Website: new sections need to be added to list the maps for venues and clubs, incl. link to their websites. Also add BVA constitution; rotation slips; example scoresheet a BVA committee page (without personal contact details, just create aliases). And make the page about fines less prominent. Action on Eddy.
- Action on Eddy to reclaim the .org.uk domain, no camels wanted.

9. **AOB**

- Treasurer: James is close to opening new account with Barclays, just last bits of paperwork to go in.
- Action on James to collect good will deposit of £20 expected from each new team that wasn't in the league the previous season. Also chase the entry fee for last season with Didcot, Newbold and Oxford Uni.
- There are no official minutes from the AGM. Action on Iva to chase the decisions/actions/updates.
- Newbury outdoor tournament was attended only by 1 BVA team. Better support from other clubs is expected, will need to promote better.

10. **Next meeting**

- Monday 24th November.
- We'll meet less frequently than previous years, ca every 10 weeks.