**A Plan for the Development of Volleyball in the South West**

**4th Draft May 2011**

**{Insert logos as appropriate}**

# Foreword

The South West Volleyball Association has an active regional executive committee, supported by a number of strong area associations. They have shown commitment to the development of volleyball in the region in the way that they have come together to form this new development plan. The region has a well respected reputation for its work in junior and beach volleyball. This plan seeks to address those areas that have not seen similar growth and improvement. We look forward to working with Volleyball England and with the players, volunteers, clubs and area associations in the south west to implement the plans contained within this document.

Ron Richards

Secretary, SWVA

# Introduction

This plan has been developed by volunteers throughout the South West region, working in conjunction with the national Volleyball England office. It represents the regional vision for Volleyball, links to the national Volleyball England Strategic Plan for 2009-13, and identifies priorities and areas for action. Like the national plan, this plan will run until 2013 when it will be reviewed.

The SW Volleyball Association has for many years had the highest number of club affiliations of any of the Volleyball England regions, though growth has slowed significantly in recent years. There are strong local leagues in Poole and Bournemouth, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Cornwall and Exeter. In the Men’s National League Division 1 the region is represented by Wessex and in the Women’s Super 8 League by Devon. There is a small but strong regional league for men and women - despite the difficulties faced by the geography of the region. Junior volleyball is a real strength - both at club level and in the standard of the regional junior squads. There are well supported junior competitions for both the indoor teams and in beach volleyball. Areas in need of development are coaching and the introduction of new adults to the game.

# Vision

The national vision and values are as follows:

**Vision**

* Volleyball England will lead by creating innovative, exciting new opportunities for people of all abilities to enjoy volleyball.
* Volleyball England will respect the diverse communities within the game and will be ethically driven.
* Volleyball England will develop world class structures and events to enable those with the potential to succeed.
* Volleyball England will celebrate, support and develop staff and volunteers through all levels of the game.
* Volleyball England’s image will be recognised and respected by stakeholders.

**Values**

* Volleyball is an ***Active***, exciting game played by all ages.
* Volleyball is ***Inclusive*** in all opportunities that are offered.
* Volleyball initiatives and programmes are ***Innovative*** in their approach.
* The Volleyball experience is ***Positive*** for all who take part in or contribute towards it.
* Volleyball is ***Competitive*** in all its forms, sitting, beach, outdoor and indoor.
* Volleyball England is ***Supportive*** of all our staff and volunteers.

# Our Vision for Volleyball in the South West is:

**To create a tangible legacy from 2012 Olympic Games, continue to move the sport forward and increase the profile of Volleyball throughout the region**

# Priorities

The priorities for the South West are as follows:

1. Tackling the 16+ participation agenda and promoting Volleyball in the community
2. To continue to grow and service the membership
3. Infrastructure for juniors and links to schools
4. Recruiting volunteers
5. Performance and elite

**These priorities are addressed in the next six sections of the plan which identify main gaps and action areas across six areas:**

**a) participation; b) coaching & refereeing; c) facilities; d) beach volleyball; e) clubs; f) competition .**

# a) Participation

## Where are we now?

Active People data indicates that there are 5,500 people (adults aged 16+) in the South West who are weekly participants. There are also 1,000 affiliated club members. However it is recognised that the phone survey used by Active People may not pick up the large numbers of young people or students who may be playing but do not have a land line phone.

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| Where are the gaps |
| **Schools:**   * Lack of organisation and volunteers * Schools do not offer a good VB experience * Teachers choose to run clubs other than VB * Schools often not integrated with local clubs   **Young people HE/FE**   * There is a lack of participation for those aged 16-25 * Organisation at universities – there is a high turnover of students; many people stop while they go to university   **Information**   * Available funding not always advertised * Public perception – people do not know about it. * Poor liaison with other sports clubs & sports bodies |

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| What are the actions needed to address the gaps | SW Lead | Other Stakeholders | Target |
| **Schools/ Young people**   * **Develop a package of support targeting teachers that ensures volleyball is embedded in curriculum delivery in identified areas. This could include but is not limited too;** * Evening training for teachers tailored to the needs at a local level * Increasing and improving the experience of teachers, potentially through Teacher Leagues and encouraging Involvement in club * Promoting volleyball as a SUMMER and winter sport * **Promoting the value of a strong link between a local club and schools.** * Identification of tangible benefits to clubs * Examples of good practice in school club links across the South West and Nationally * Promoting the values of Volley 123 accreditation   **Adults (16+) / VB in the community**   * **Recognise the value of recreational volleyball** * Collate and update a database of all informal volleyball opportunities taking place across the region, whether one-off, weekly, monthly or seasonal * Promote good practice across the South West of drop in sessions, come and try courts at events, recreational competitions and leagues, clubs offering taster sessions and social volleyball activities * **Improve awareness of large mass footfall events with potential for exposure to new participants**   **Information**   * **Improve SWVA web site** * Ensure the website is current and easy to use * Promotion of events at all levels including local, regional and national * Establish ways to Improve hit rate and visibility in searches   **Recommendations for VE....**   * National player registration and national volunteer registration programme – acknowledgement? Benefit? Why would you do this? | * Junior Development Officer      * Junior Development Officer * ? * ? * Dave Reece – title to be inserted | * SW Coach Development Officer * Identified clubs * Area Associations * Schools & Teachers * Young People Manager (VE) * Volley 123 clubs * Area Associations * National Club and Membership Development Officer (VE) * Area Associations * Affiliated Clubs | * 2 areas targeted between Sept 11 and July 12 * 3 areas targeted between Sept 12 and July 13 * All clubs awarded Volley 123 accreditation and those working towards accreditation to have a quality school – club link agreement in place known to the SWVA * Provide links on SWVA website for recreational volleyball opportunities * SWVA to attend one event per year to promote volleyball * Website to be launched by ?? |

# b) Coaching and refereeing

## Where are we now?

There are 90 affiliated coaches (end 2009-10)

59 affiliated officials (end 2009-10)

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| Where are the gaps/ issues |
| **Provision of courses:**   * There are too few courses and therefore not enough Level 2 coaches * Coach conferences and workshops needed * Encourage young officials * Advertising of coaching/ref courses   **Costs / funding:**   * Cheaper courses needed * Cost of equipment and clothing * Affiliation for local level refs too expensive   **Organisation:**   * Too many officials required for matches * Officials travelling too far – expense/time/carbon footprint * Retention of coaches/refs. * Coaches who are not affiliated |

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| What are the actions needed to address the gaps | SW Lead | | Other Stakeholders | Target |
| **Provision of courses**:   * **Ensure the South West has sufficient coaching and refereeing courses available to satisfy demand** * Work with VE Workforce team nationally to identify and plan demand for courses to be run * Respond to regional demand for specific coaching and refereeing clinics * Link to County Sport Partnership network and other external providers to promote generic coach and referee development opportunities   **Funding of courses:**   * **Ensure that potential candidates for coaching and refereeing qualificiaitons are aware of any local or national bursaries and subsidies available to them**   **Opportunities to coach or referee**   * **Enable registered qualified and newly qualified coaches and referees to gain practical experience and support** * Collation of SW opportunities to coach and referee * Identify county based mentoring support for newly qualified coaches and referees   ***Recommendations for VE……***   * Introduce different affiliation price / tier of membership for local level ref/coach * Clarification from governing bodies of child protection requirements * More accessible websites to help coaches - top tips, new drills, sharing good practice * SWVA to try and help VE identify coaches in local areas who are not VE registered but are known to be actively coaching, VE can then follow up to find out why or what would encourage them to register. * Promote benefits of registration * Communication of who has passed courses (coaches and refs) | | * Coaching Sec * Coaching Sec * Refereeing Lead?      * Coaching Sec * Refereeing Lead? | |
| * National Coaching Development Officer * Referee Development Officer * Technical Administrator * Coaching Officers within SW CSPs * National Coaching Development Officer * Referee Development Officer * Coaching Officers within SW CSPs |