



Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Volleyball Association of Ireland, trading as
Volleyball Ireland.

Company Number: 317399

Office: 141 Thomas Street

Dublin 8, Ireland

Saturday May 15th, 2021, 1pm, Online

Attendance List			
Organisational		Member Clubs	
Name	Board/Commissions	Name	Club
Regina Halpin	Board – Hon Secretary	Agnieszka Olowniuk	Net Force Cork
Gary Stewart	VLY Staff – GM	Agnieszka Wala	Kilkenny
Clodagh NicCanna	Board – VP	Alison O'Neill	Ballymun
Mark Leonard Doyle	VLY Staff – Ops Officer	Anna Ryan	Gardians
Norma McIntyre	VLY Staff – Participation & Club Support Officer	Anton Tiscovshci	Trinity
Alfredo Aloï	Board Member	Antonio Barros	Cork Academy
Grainne Culliton	Board – President (Chair)	Benjhamin Bancquart	Tallaght
Cliona Boland	Board – Independent	Chiara Italiano	Santry
Stephen Moreton	Board – Independent	Clara Gonzalez	Ballymun
Conor Flood	VLY Staff – Youth Development Officer	Clement Calvino	UCD
Jue Goa	Commission – Audit & Risk	David Dalton	Balbriggan
Lorenzo Battistin	Commission – Audit & Risk	Des Currivan	Aer Lingus
Miriam Gormally	Commission – Beach Tour	Gerry White	Aer Lingus
Rachael Kilgallen	Board – Treasurer	Martin O'Connor	Newbridge
		Mikal O'Boyle	Mayo
Apologies		Paul Garcia	Tallaght
Derek McGrath	Board – Independent	Ruth Baez	Kilkenny
Erica Fatini	Board Member	Sean O'Brien	Athenry
		Teresa Curtin	Munster Thunder
		Vinnie Dos Santos	DVC
		Guillem Hernandez	Dalkey
		Heloise Montigny	Santry
		Jana Langford	DVC
		Kamila	Gardians
		Leigh O'Connell	Burren
		Declan Ryan	Gardians
		Katie Ward	Trinity
		Liam Jones	Munster Thunder
		Marta Zugaro	Net Force

		Patricia Somers	UCD
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0. Pre Meeting Information

Housekeeping and Zoom etiquette with Mark Leonard Doyle.

Meeting Opened at 13:05, with live stream on YouTube.

Quorum met and commencement of meeting.

1. Welcome & Apologies

President Grainne Culliton (GC) opened meeting at 13:05.

Welcome from President GC. Apologies from DMcG and EF.

Grainne outlined the Agenda for today's AGM.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting (19/09/20), and Minutes of the 2021 Extraordinary General Meeting (22/03/21)

Error in 2020 meetings acknowledgements – error in list of attendees and their clubs x2. These errors were noted and have been amended.

Decisions:

Minutes from 2020 AGM Approved.

Minutes from 2021 EGM Approved.

3. Board activities report since the last AGM

Presidential Address

Presidential Address from GC who commented on her sadness at stepping down as president.

She complimented the hard work of our office especially in this difficult year.

GC thanked and congratulated all volunteers for all they achieved in this particularly difficult year. GC thanked all the BM both past and present with whom she has worked with for many years. It is with great excitement she looks forward to where VI will go in the coming years.

Full Transcript: Annual Report page 7–8

4. Staff report on activities over the last year

Gary Stewart: General Manager

Impact of Covid

GS provided an update on the impact of Covid to the organisation which has led to a reduction in licensed players and revenues. Full details (Annual Report p9)

Activities Update

GS introduced update. Commented on how successfully club and commissions have overcome the difficulties to build the association further. Engagement has been extremely high in a difficult year.

GS presented schematic that shows the length and breadth of the work that the office does. Covering strategic pillars, programmes, competitions, events, asset, and policy.

GS particularly highlighted the need for good governance and the work that has been done to adopt the governance code.

GS feels that compared to similar sized NGBs with similar resources- we are punching well above our weight regarding our output.

GS mentioned that due to a lack of Volleyball Activity our anti-doping promotional work has reduced somewhat. There was no AD testing held at Volleyball events. (Annual Report p. 16).

Full Activities report transcript starts on p.13 of the Annual Report.

Stakeholder Survey

GS then outlined results of Stakeholder Survey (Annual Report p. 25) with consistent results across the Board. Slight reduction in Net Promoter Score. NPS is a globally recognised tool to measure member satisfaction (above 30- good, above 50- excellent)

GS discussed Promoters. Passive and Detractors that have been returned from the Stake holder Survey.

GS thankful for all the feedback and reiterated how beneficial it is to the development of the organisation.

Strategic Objectives

Strategies Metric progress- 50% delayed secondary to 'Covid but believe we can catch up in the coming year. Full results (Annual Report p.18 and AR Appendix for detailed commentary).

Comprehensive updates on all strategic targets are included in the Annual Report.

GS then outlined some key objectives for 2021/2022 season with the main aim to *re-start the game*.

Conor Flood: Player pathway and Education Coordinator

LTPD Model reviewed - best practice guidance for players and coaches and anybody who wishes to develop in the community of VI

Took the opportunity of Covid to develop this model and to was launched in Nov. The model will inform our decision-making regarding development from physical literally (ages of 6) all the way through life.

The principal is Volleyball for Life: competition, participation & legacy and the four pillars are Coach education, high level competitions, programmes and personal development i.e., this can help all members develop- not just players.

Junior Activity

Junior Beach Programme- fun training sessions and competitions in the month of July. We see VI as a 12-month support and the beach can compliment. based around the country- open to all to get involved

Junior Beach Development centres- this is to develop a junior beach squad as at present there is no structure to support this. This is aligned with the high performance framework. Looking to pair new and younger players with more experienced players/ Looking to run competitions throughout the summer.

Summer Skills Sessions: Raise awareness volleyball in that area- hoping to re-engage players who we lost due to covid. Staff and coaches locally will run these and help drive participation to the clubs too. Working with clubs to help launch these programmes in their areas.

Young Leaders Online:

Exposes new schools and helps them launch volleyball in their schools. Building philosophies, understand laws of the game requirements and building confidence. Looks at refereeing skills. Great success- 21 courses (250 people) educated already this year. It is going to add an additional support to clubs and school activity.

Development Youth

Play Volley is participation programme led by the club supported by VI. Includes a range of club supports such as coaching resources, equipment and training. Package hopefully will be ready for launch in September.

Indoor Development Centres: recognise the necessity to support the development of our younger players- allowing top players in the region to play together. And this will also positively benefit clubs.

Mark Leonard Doyle: Operations Officer

New brand has been launched- Sport for Business VI won 15k re brand. Launched in Nov 2020

We wanted to put Volleyball, not the administration, to the forefront. The multiple colours allow us to adapt to the need but keep the consistency.

Cillian Bracken (Former player) who has worked closely with the office in designing and continuing to adapt the website to meet the needs of all users. Ensuring that teams and matches are front and centre. Some features include:

New sleek look to the League

Each game will have its own page.

Over the coming months more shall be added such as national squad players

Digital and Marketing

119% growth in social media since 2018. Throughout the pandemic we have been one of the most active online NGBs - aiming to keep our community engaged and involved

Norma McIntyre: Participation & Club Support Coordinator

Norma outlined some key programmes:

Volleyball Activator

What: Drives participation through social volley

Why: Club support tool to grow club membership and the sport as a whole. Aimed at targeting areas with no clubs to drive participation

How? Fun tailored training day, equipment and guidance and promotional support from VLY. Office will continue to engage with Activators constantly to support them in

Youth Council

What- Sub-Committee of board for 16-24yr olds

Why? Increases young people visibility and provide a platform for them to have a voice and have input into the programmes adults create for them. Helps to find solutions to drop of in participation in the teenagers

How - terms of reference being drawn up at present- they join via their club, there is leadership training, undertaking specialised projects for engagement session with young people in clubs. Benefit clubs to bring players through to their committee with more skills

Challenger Series

What: encourages rec teams to play more often.

Why: Continually engages them to play more and be involved more often give teams and clubs time to develop ahead of joining the national league. Need to build offering for social and recreational players.

How: league table on the website and teams can challenge any team and organise fixtures wherever and whenever.

Grow volley: Club Development

Clubs fill out this survey on participation, people facilities, governance, revenues, promotion- helps clubs flag where they need support to develop and grow. The office will help give supports and direct clubs to programme that will benefit them to develop- this will be reassessed after the year and see if there is an increased in their needs. 12 clubs are participating in this.

Norma discussed some of the metrics that have come back from clubs and the suggestions from clubs as to their needs and the support they need. Norma discussed some of the suggestions of how VI supported and directed clubs to resources that could support their needs.

GC thanked the office for their endeavours and the hard work they have put in. she congratulated them for how they continually push the sport and community forward.

5. Commission's report on activities during the season-

Clodagh NicCanna- Director of Competitions and Development

CNC provided an overview of key summary statistics (p28 Annual Report).

Nat League management committee:

Workshop's pre-season to give us as many options to try and play the season- much thought and ingenuity but unfortunately couldn't be played out

Thanked in particular Kevin- in particular with fixtures despite them not playing out.

Incredible prep by clubs by clubs in the compliance to covid protocols and one positive was it opened up communication channels between clubs and NLMC

Score sheet validation process is defined and will be in place in the coming seasons.

CNC highlighted the cultural diversity of the organisation and the wide range of nations our members originate from.

Beach tour Management Committee:

Incredible to run the junior beach tour which was very successful when we were unable to run senior beach tour.

Schools committee:

No schools comps but lots of work in the background

Competition restructure which aligns with player pathway (as discussed with CF)

Alfredo Aloï: Director Education and training

Huge amount of work This year was one of a kind - covid stopped all the action but it allowed us to leverage the situation to deliver even more education and training. We hope to continue this approach to help

Coaching

Launched 3 tier coach dev program- 46 people signed up- great success. Tier 1 needed additional sessions.

CPD Licensing system:

Aims to help coaches stay on track - new licence system which allows coaches to accrue points to renew licence. Focus on quality of coaches- tried to make it very achievable and there will be plenty of support to ensure coaches get and maintain certification. There will be an open night in Aug to discuss this.

Had amazing guest speakers Gribic and KDL who helped delivered the LTPD courses

Referees

Despite little match activities. Able to certify new referees- hoping to get these refs their experience.

New score keeper tutorial introduced online- aim to improve quality of scorekeeper/score sheets- aim to support not to penalise.

Online Bootcamp- preseason bootcamp- very positive feedback

250 young leaders trained online-

VDS international referee officered at the CEV u 17 champs in Romania.

Plans

Lots for Beach development

Beach coach and ref course

Centralized ref appointments- studying how can we do this- still at brainstorm stage- further development required and potential pilot in coming season

Implementation if CPD licence Scheme

Summer Programming- Calendar is coming soon!!

AA thanked all how are involved in the commission for their work in growing the commission over the past few months and the VI staff who support them constantly.

Gary Stewart: HP Commission – Annual Report p35

GC introduced new Director for High Performance Commission Stephen Moreton

GS gave HP update: while reduced court time there was amazing work in the background to ensure engagement, provide inspiration for our players. Mental health specialist brought in – recognising the importance of the Covid impact on young players.

High performance Framework (10 year plan)

CNC presented an overview of the framework.

Vision: High performance that allows Irish National teams to reach their potential through regularly competing for medal at an international level. 6b pillars (see phone)

GS Guiding principles/ core values

Having a long term focus. Systemic development, supporting people, creating a positive environment/ journey, create ambition and creativity, collaboration. Focused investment, equality of opportunity, Team Ireland Approach (consistent approach to how promote, brand across all programmes). Key areas of the presentation included:

Roles and Responsibility Structure

Policies and procedures

Funding and Investment

Performance Targets

Road Map

Current Status and Next Steps

6. To receive & consider the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st December 2020

GC presented P&L (Annual Report p. 39)

- Explained that while 40% loss in income- money received has been deferred for when projects can begin.
- Income - expenditure are in line and our surplus is stable.
- Key drops are obvious related to covid.

Balance Sheet

- Cash is high because of deferred grants – ready to go.
- Our creditors have also gone up- in line with deferred payments.
- Financial Statements approved by exception- Accounts formally approved.

Decision:

Financial Statements Approved

7. To appoint Searing Point Ltd as Auditors and fix their remuneration

Appoint Auditor

Searing Point Ltd proposed as auditor- approved by exception- Searing Point Ltd approved for next year as auditor.

Decision:

Searing Point Approved as auditor for 2021

8. The election or re-election of Directors

Due to various constitutional term limits the following vacancies on the Board of Directors, and subsequent nominations are as follows:

1 nomination for President: Clodagh NicCanna

No objection raised; **CNC appointed new President**

1 nomination for Vice President: Alfredo Aloï

No objections raised; **AA appointed new VP**

1 nomination for Secretary: Regina Halpin

No objections raised, **RH continues as Secretary.**

1 Nomination for Treasurer: Rachael Kilgallen

No objections raised, **RK appointed as Treasurer**

9. Members' submissions and motions


No official motions received from clubs.

10. Any Other Business

No questions from Clubs

CNC thanked GC on behalf of board/staff/community for the work she has done.

GC thanked all for attending and officially closed meeting at **14.53** and Live stream ceased.

Signed: 

Grainne Culliton

Signed: 

Clodagh NicCanna (Doherty)