



**Annual General Meeting of Volleyball Association of Ireland t/a Volleyball
Ireland (Company Number 317399)**

Saturday June 8th 2024

Welcome to Portlaoise.

This document outlines the running order for the day, as well as some important information in regard to nominations, motions and voting rights.

Plan for the Day

The VLY. Congress 2024 is effectively split into two parts. First up we have Commission workshops, where the Competitions & Development, Education & Training and High-Performance Commissions will share some of their work and ideas for consultation. This is interactive and a discussion and will take up a large part of the day into the early afternoon. At this point we'll begin the formal AGM business. The schedule can be found on page 2.

Annual Report & Financial Statements

The detailed and comprehensive annual report will add value to the various presentations. The report and financial statements for approval are here.

Elections

Nominations have been received for the following Board vacancies:

Vacancy	Nominees
President	Clodagh NicCanna, Volleyball Veterans
Vice President	Regina Halpin, UCD
Board Member	Elisabeth Rae, Net Force Cork
Board Member	Gavin Dredge, Unattached

Motions

Formal motions to make four changes to the constitution have been made by the Board. These can be found on page 3.

Voting Rights

Member club voting rights are explained on page 4.

Competition proposals from clubs

A small number of proposals for amendments to competition rules have been made by clubs. These are outlined on page 5 and will be discussed during the competition workshop session.

AGENDA

Time	Agenda Item
0930	Registration & Networking Coffee Mingling and reconnecting.
10:00	Welcome, Overview of the day and Clarification of Purpose/Format/Remits of each section
10:10	Stakeholder Survey Results & Questions Summary of key findings from recent stakeholder survey
10:20	Competitions Matters and Workshop Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights throughout the year inc. disciplinary issues, new developments, challenges. • Plans for future development including league structures adult & youth • Discussion of Club and NLMC proposals
11:15	Coffee Break
11:30	Competitions Part 2 Referee Matters Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of pathway development plans and feedback • Discussions of Clubs and RMC proposals
12:30	Education & Training Commission – Discussion Plans & Achievements
13:15	Knowledge Burst – European Champs Overview of budget, activations, tournament, opportunities
13:30	Lunch Menu to be provided in the morning with lunch pre-ordered
14:15	HP Commission & Discussion Pathway presentation and feedback
15:00	Opening of AGM formalities Including housekeeping and Quorum, Voting clarification, Minutes approval
15:05	Board Activities Report Presidents Report
15:15	Governance Report Overview of risk management, Commission structures and plans to improve
15:25	Strategy Review Update on progress, highlights and key challenges
15:45	Financial Statements Presentation of accounts and queries
16:00	Appoint Auditor & Fix Remuneration
16:05	Members' Motions Including constitution changes
16:30	Election of Directors All candidates elected unopposed
16:55	Closing remarks

Motions: Changes to the Constitution

Introduction – as part of a three year review of Volleyball Ireland’s constitution, the working group made up of the Volleyball Ireland President and CEO have proposed a number of amendments to the Constitution.

A marked-up version of the Constituon is included in your AGM pack. Each proposed amendment will be voted on individually.

Motion	Amendment	Rationale
1	(Throughout) Amend masculine reference to ‘him’ throughout the constitution to him/her or they/them.	In the interest of gender equality and modernisaton.
2	Articles of Association Section (4): Additional ‘object’ added: (v) <i>To strive to ensure the organisation operates in a sustainable way, considering the principles of relevant sustainable development goals.</i>	Reinforces our commitment to sustainability within the constitution. Reinforces our leadership position in this area.
3	(1.2) Clarity on definitions of member clubs and subsequent voting rights of same: “Junior Club” means an affiliated Club with volleyball team(s) competing in <i>the National League</i> or <i>Youth National League</i> , or an affiliated Beach Volleyball Club. “Senior Club” means a Club with 4 or more volleyball teams competing in the <i>National League</i> , at least one of which is a Juvenile team competing in the <i>Youth National League</i> .	The current wording is vague and can be interpreted in various ways. This new wording gives clarity and reinforces the importance and value of development.
4	(1.2) and (4.2)Based on current good governance trends, as well as feedback as part of Volleyball Ireland’s Board Effectiveness review, it is proposed that the Board position of Treasurer is removed, and becomes an ordinary board member position.	There are a number of reasons: 1. Financial control and management of the company is the responsibility of all Directors. 2. The Audit & Risk Committee contains highly qualified and experienced professionals who inspect the company accounts and test controls. 3. Volleyball Ireland employs as part of its core staff, a finance manager.

Voting Rights

Volleyball Ireland's members are the adult National League clubs. The definition section of the constitution of Volleyball Ireland classifies member clubs as either Junior Clubs or Senior Clubs. Junior clubs are currently entitled to one vote at the AGM, Senior clubs receive two.

"Junior Club"

means a Club with volleyball team(s) competing in Volleyball Ireland competitions the majority of which shall be indoor competitions.

"Senior Club"

means a Club with 4 or more volleyball teams at least one of which is a Juvenile team, and such teams competing in Volleyball Ireland competitions the majority of which shall be indoor competitions.

Volleyball Ireland operates a number of competitions including the National League, Championships, Association Cup & Shield, Recreational tournaments, Development League, Youth League, Mixed Social Events, u14 blitz events, beach tournaments, grass tournaments and Masters competitions. Players compete in several competitions across a number of teams. This presents a challenge when determining voting rights. Which teams do we count?

As our members are our adult National League clubs only, only teams competing in the National League from Premier to Division 3 Development, and the u16 National Youth League, will be considered for the purposes of this article. The table establishes the classification of each National League member club. If you believe this information to be incorrect, please contact Volleyball Ireland CEO Gary Stewart before the AGM.

National League Teams by Club				Adult National League		u16 Youth National League		Development League D3	
Full Member Club	Allocation	Total Teams	Of Which are Youth	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Men	Women
Aer Lingus VC	Junior	3	0	2	1			0	0
Balbriggan VC	Senior	6	2	3	1	1		1	
Ballymun Patriots VC	Senior	8	4	2	2	1	1	1	1
Carrick Crows VC	Senior	4	2	1	1		1	1	
Dalkey Devils VC	Senior	8	5	1	2	1	4		
Dublin Volleyball Club - DVC	Junior	3	0	2	1				
Galway VC	Senior	6	3	2	1			1	2
Gardians VC	Senior	5	2	2	1			1	1
Impact Wiz VC	Senior	4	2	1	1			1	1
Kildare VC	Senior	5	3	2		1	1		1
Kilkenny Mystics VC	Junior	1	0		1				
Kilkenny Spartans VC	Senior	5	3	1	1		1	1	1
Longford Smashers VC	Junior	2	0	1	1				
Medusa VC	Junior	1	0	1					
Munster Thunder VC	Senior	4	1	1	2		1		
Naas Cobras VC	Senior	10	8		2	1	3	1	3
Net Force Cork VC	Junior	2	0	1	1				
Newbridge VC	Junior	2	1		1		1		
Santry VC	Senior	10	4	1	5		3		1
SETU Carlow VC	Junior	2	0	1	1				
Tallaght Rockets VC	Junior	5	0	2	3				
TCD VC	Junior	2	0	1	1				
UCD VC	Junior	4	0	2	2				

Competition Discussions, proposed by Clubs and NLMC

A – Submitted by Munster Thunder

- 1) Hosting team to provide 6 balls for the opponent team for warm up. > It will make things easier for everyone and also avoid delays during the matches.
- 2) Players are to be allowed to get their own water when exchanging court. > At the moment there is too much inconsistency from the referee side in regard to this matter. Some apply the rules and give a warning or yellow card, some let it go so players get agitated when this behaviour is sanctioned. It could actually speed up the court exchange.
- 3) All first 7 fixtures to be agreed prior start of league (no to be defined fixture) – All following 7 fixtures to be agreed prior to the Xmas break. **Note: NLMC point on this matter below.**

B – Submitted by Balbriggan

- 1) Maximum number of players per match increased from 12 to 14, with a maximum of 2 liberos.

C- Proposed Developments from the NLMC for discussion

- 1) *Grand Finals* – there is a clear demand from players for an of season play-off/grand final system. Discussion on best way forward to deliver.
- 2) *Late Arriving Players* –Discussion on the process for admitting late arriving players to a match and managing the verification checks, without game interruptions.
- 3) Tied Knockouts at Championships – feedback from clubs by end of October.
- 4) Unconfirmed Fixtures – unconfirmed fixtures are causing an issue, especially for club administrators. A tightened process for managing this could be as follows:

Home teams confirm matches per existing rules, and then there is a further two-week period for any additional changes, per existing rules. After that point, any unconfirmed fixture will be fixed for the relevant matchday weekend, at a day and time tbc by the NLMC, and any change to that fixture after that point can only be made through the usual fixture change form. In the 2023-24 season, there were 33 fixtures still to be confirmed by early October. **Note: Munster Thunder point on this matter above.**