



**2019 Domestic Development  
Committee  
December 6, 2019  
Ottawa, ON  
Minutes**

In attendance: Brian Newman (Chair), Monette Boudreau-Carroll, Kerry MacDonald, Julien Boucher, Ed Drakich, Jim Plakas, Dawna Sales (Staff Lead)

Regrets: Keith Hansen, James Sneddon

Guest: Ryan Bunyan

1. Approval of the Agenda
  - a. Approved
2. Approval of the Previous Minutes
  - a. Approved
    - i. Notes: Approved minutes will be circulated directly to stakeholders & posted on VC website within a reasonable timeframe following the meeting.
3. Project Updates
  - a. Coaching and Pathways –
    - i. Work continues to ensure the management of the NCCP. Time will be scheduled to ensure continued discussion on coaching initiatives and any certification concerns, i.e evaluation timeline, once initiated.
  - b. Grassroots Development –
    - i. Smashball – Release of app in coming weeks, Innovation Grant on-going – work with NLVA to complete project
    - ii. LTAD 3.0 – Contract with Sport for Life to update VC's LTAD
4. New Business
  - a. Strategic Plan Review – directives from the BOD or Mark
    - i. Staff initiated process & will move to board and stakeholders
  - b. New Business Arising from the Technical Summit –
    - i. Rule Review
      1. Overage Exemptions –
        - a. Formstack application
        - b. Designed to ensure- historical data collection, PTA awareness & rationale of the policy
      2. 16U libero –
        - a. Approved @ DDC, Quebec – no separate age groups for 15U & 16U – rationale communicated – monitor for early specialize.
    - ii. National Championships Data Review
      1. Tracking of Data that allows DDC to further make decisions based on athlete/coach development as well as collection of historical data. The data set, criteria, format of the data is critical to ensure quality. The committee recommended the following items as prior data collection
        - a. Extended age group, including post-secondary participation



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- b. Female Coaches – Head/Assistant Coach
  - i. Overall number of coaches at nationals
  - ii. Per team, ie. how many teams have an opposite gender coach (i.e. female team with female coach)
  - iii. Ratio based on division of play, i.e 18U teams vs 15U teams
  - iv. Ratio by province
  - v. DDC to confirm any provincial requirements for gender balance
  - vi. Gender balance recommendations - Tabled
- c. Roster Size of 14U boys – teams, roster sizes, individual
  - i. Provincial data required as data set would be reduced at national championships
- d. ‘Meaningful’ matches
  - i. 16 or less point
  - ii. ISet – scores based on divisions
  - iii. Average of day 1 matches, only 2 sets –
- 2. Kerry to work support the any data collection project to ensure data set is set up for ease of research
- iii. Canada Cup
  - 1. What’s the why?
    - a. Athlete development
      - i. Concerns regarding length of time of the training period
      - ii. National team exposure is a priority
      - iii. Education & Exposure & Ignition are critical success factors
    - b. Coach development
      - i. Ensures accountable, training plans, seasonal plans, load management, sport science providers, professional development and a coaching pathway towards High Performance.
    - c. Referee development
      - i. Directive to referees’ committee to see the Canada Cup as an opportunity for development
  - 2. Direction from DDC
    - a. Recommendation – hold event later date to increase training opportunities and national team presence/id opportunity
- iv. HP HUB
  - 1. Communication – ensure PTA’s are aware of any new additions, TD operational meetings including any HP Hub updates as a standing agenda item
  - 2. National Team – systems, files updated



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- v. National Championships
  - 1. Competition vs Development
  - 2. Court Space/Best of 5/Elite Division – Recommendations back to DCC
    - a. DDC recommendations the following in the interest of athlete development:
      - i. Free zone space, with priority being end of court, i.e serving space for Division 1:
        - 1. 16u – minimum of 4 metres,
        - 2. 18u & 17U – minimum 5 metres
      - b. VC Rulebook adjustments – recommendations updated to reflect DDC recommendations
      - c. Development of a document for building specifics for recommendations on space required, not minimum space allocations.
- c. National Championship Rule Updates –
  - i. Recommendation to ensure connectivity between DDC and NIC
  - ii. Warm-up Protocol Wording:

WARM-UP PROTOCOL:

In an effort to reduce the incidence of injuries and concussions during match play, Volleyball Canada has developed the following warm-up protocol. This protocol is to be followed by all teams during the hitting portion of the team warm-up:

    - 1. Athletes are not permitted to cross under the net and into the receiving court after completing their attack.
    - 2. Athletes must remain on their side of the net immediately following an attack and only move to the opposite side of the net from outside of the court.
    - 3. Balls being entered to the attacking side of the net from the receiving side of the court must be entered from outside of the court at a minimum distance of six meters from the net.
    - 4. Retrieved balls must be returned along the sidelines of the court and not through the receiving court.
    - 5. For teams that do not follow the warm-up protocol, the referees will note on the score sheet the non-compliance of the warm-up protocol. The league, PTA, or Volleyball Canada (depending on the event), will determine the appropriate sanction for not following the warm-up protocol.
  - iii. Warm up protocol adjusted to have the non-attacking team remains on their side of the net to retrieve volleyballs to the attacking team. Recommended practice for 2020 and required for 2021.
  - iv. DDC strongly recommendation to DCC - warmups are 2-5-5 based on athlete health and development implemented for 2020.
- d. Co-Head Coach Proposal
  - i. Letter received
  - ii. Co-coaches within a club –



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1. The head coach listed on the roster is verified as the head coach. Any circumstances by which a head coach is not present, requires an exemption from Volleyball Canada. Teams can only list one head coach. An assistant coach can perform the duties of a head coach in extenuating circumstances.
  2. Therefore, the co-head coach is not approved based on this policy. It was determined that coaching development opportunities can take place during the season and if desired, the assistant coach can act in a mentor coach role.
  - iii. Recommendation is to add coaching certification policy to DDC agenda
  - e. Club Signing Policy – Guiding Principles
    - i. The DDC recommends freedom of movement for athletes from one season to the next to ensure athletes are in situations that are developmentally appropriate.
  - f. Pilots – 14u Net Height Pilot (Alberta)
    - i. Moved 2.20 to 2.24
    - ii. Survey response was limited. Verbal feedback was positive. Difficult to measure. AB will continue with 2.24.
  - g. Club Recognition and Approval
    - i. Distribution to DDC- immediately
    - ii. Feedback by DDC – January 15
    - iii. Distribution to stakeholders – after DDC feedback
    - iv. Stakeholder Discussion & Approval by end of June
      1. Priority to ensure education/communication on Intent of recognition and approval
  - h. Communication Schedule
    - i. In person meeting – December
    - ii. In person - AGM – June – difficult based on committee member’s schedules, will be based on needs.
    - iii. Conference Call – September – 3<sup>rd</sup> week – Thursday – Sept 17 @ 2pm EST
    - iv. As required, email discussion and/or conference
  - i. Round Table
    - i. Concern over post secondary athletes who are age eligible playing 18U club volleyball.
      1. Recommendation is that if athletes are age eligible, they should be allowed to compete but further research is required this impacts development of clubs, limits roster sizes of 18U/high school aged athletes.
5. Adjournment – 1:30pm