



District Structure & Model

DISTRICT STRUCTURE

Each District should ideally be represented by their District Chairperson on the National Executive Council, or by a nominated District Representative. The District Chairperson/Representative shall be the communication link between the National Executive Council and the District Association.

District volleyball does not just include the local District Leagues - it covers all volleyball, from recreational through to National League, played in the district. Volleyball at all levels in any one district will be co-ordinated by the local District Association.

The significance of the District Association is to co-ordinate volleyball at the local level, and to address the issues and areas identified in the National Development Plan through an appropriate model of local development. In order to do that effectively, the following members are required.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• District Chairperson (NEC Representative)• District Organiser• District League Competition Secretary• National league Representative• District Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schools Representative• SVA Staff Tutor• Grade II Referee• Any other relevant persons
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To help understand how these key volunteers can function to implement a Development Plan, their roles are explained as follows:

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON

Should be capable of bringing voluntary people together to work as an effective group with the over-riding objective of having more groups of people playing volleyball on a regular basis and to a higher standard in their District.

The Chairperson should:

- 1) Have a clear direction as to how the District will facilitate people playing or learning how to play, at different ages and stages of competency. A variety of suitable outlets for teaching, coaching and organised competition/play opportunities must be made available, on a regular basis.
- 2) Initiate and chair a small number of meetings of the District Association and ensure clear communication between members.

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- 3) Present*, if necessary, the case for volleyball to other agencies, i.e. the District Sports Council, Community Education Department, Department of Leisure and Recreation.
- 4) Appreciate the political necessity of establishing and maintaining informed relationships between the District Association and local District/Community Education Authorities to create opportunities for finance and facility access for local volleyball projects and groups.

*However this could be delegated to those people responsible for specific areas where the presentation or representation is directly related to their area of work/interest. The significance of an **effective** working District Association in any relationship with Local Authorities is essential because this indicates a degree of organisation and purpose undertaken on behalf of the various local groups.

DISTRICT ORGANISER

The District Organiser's prime responsibility is the presentation of well organised recreational tournaments. By providing a regular opportunity for involvement it should be possible to sustain interest in recreational volleyball in potentially large numbers of people. Involvement at a recreational level will frequently be the introduction to volleyball and is therefore a key part of future development.

The District Organiser should be:

- 1) Able to assemble a small team of two or three people who will initiate and staff, at a centralised venue, recreational tournaments on a similar format to successful ones elsewhere.
- 2) Prepared to advertise and contact a number of selected target groups of people who would be most likely to want to enter such tournaments.
- 3) Able to establish appropriate criteria for the success of the tournament in terms of its format, quality of presentation, the number of teams taking part, participants' age and background, and the level of interest and enthusiasm generated as a result of participation.

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- 4) Able to seek Local Authority assistance for finance, access to facilities and publicity material in support of District Volleyball initiatives. This would almost certainly be a main feature of a local development plan submission. The finance for such tournaments and the access to facilities is where Local Authority assistance can be invaluable. The applications are best directed to the local councils since it is they who control the major sports halls in the locality.
- 5) Able to publicise a calendar of tournaments.
- 6) Able to establish and maintain an up to date record of names and personal contacts or a network of people who attend or who might be invited to these tournaments in future.
- 7) Able to promote participants' interest and personal development as recreational players by offering player improvement sessions or clinics.
- 8) Able to ensure that affiliation, team entries and registration fees for tournaments are collected as required by the District/National Association policy.
- 9) Able to liaise with the SVA National Office (or National Executive Council through the District Representative) on the working of the scheme and other development options being pursued within the District.

DISTRICT LEAGUE COMPETITIONS SECRETARY

This person should have a good overview of the relationship between league competition and existing recreational tournaments. He/she should be a good administrator and organiser to deal with competition entries, maintain the programme of fixtures and evaluate the success of the competition format for their particular district.

The District League Secretary should be able to:

- 1) Organise a local 6 v 6 competition format in line with local facilities and team requirements.
- 2) Ensure parity of competition within the format for the teams who enter and synchronise the length of the competition with facility access.

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- 3) Establish procedural requirements for competitions entries, match schedules, local rules viz. match completion, league tournament tables and awards.
- 4) Ensure all players are registered and all teams are affiliated with the SVA National Office.
- 5) Ensure teams use SVA District Scoresheets for the matches and submit these to the League Secretary for compilation of the League Tables.
- 6) Publicise match results and match details in the local press (this may be the remit of a local press officer).
- 7) Allocate a place in the competition structure for U17 junior teams where appropriate.
- 8) Liaise with the District Treasurer on the district budget, refund of player registration monies to the local district and the competition costs.

NATIONAL LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE

This person should be responsible for liaising between the National League Clubs and the District Association Committee. Ideally they will facilitate the integration of District League players into National League Competition, as and when they are ready. They will be responsible for working with all the National League Clubs to provide some kind of unity within the District re Competitions between National and District League teams, school teams v National League teams or District League teams in friendly matches, integrating training sessions for potential National League players etc., in conjunction with the District Competitions Secretary.

SVA STAFF TUTOR/GRADE II REFEREE:

These two people are responsible for training opportunities at a local level. They should be concerned with:

- 1) **Recreational Player Improvement Clinics**
The SVA Staff Tutor in conjunction with the District Organiser and local recreational teams and players should be able to initiate and offer local player improvement clinics.

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2) **Grade IV Referee Courses, Scorers and Line-Judges Courses and SVA Introductory Award Courses**

Grade IV Referee courses, courses for Scorers and Line Judges and SVA Introductory Award courses should all be available at regular intervals.

Applications for Grant Aid to assist with the costs of training, should be made to the local authority at least three or four months ahead of the course schedule.

3) **Local Clinics and Seminars by visiting SVA Staff Coaches/Tutors**

Another essential part of any ongoing programme of training is to bring in visiting SVA Coaches/Tutors. Whoever is invited can, for example, work with juniors on a local team basis, work on an evening or weekend basis. It is an ideal way to stay up to date, to obtain fresh ideas and thoughts, and to provoke change and better standards.

4) **Identification and Recruitment of People to Attend Both Local and National Level Courses**

The selective funding and support of enthusiastic teachers, coaches, officials and administrators for training at a national or international level is essential. Effective training and contact with other volleyball people is essential in terms of developing their enthusiasm, interest, competency and confidence. It should be possible to build up, over a period of time, a mailing list with the names and addresses of people interested in training as teachers / coaches / officials/ administrators.

5) An awareness of local authority funding is needed for the support of players and coaches both within and outwith the region/district.

6) Liaison is required directly with the SVA Director on training requirements, budget and course structure which can be flexible to accommodate local requirements.

SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVE

The main job of a Schools/Junior Representative is to help identify people who would form a small working group which would help to assist and foster the development of school/junior volleyball.

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The identification of staff - either existing or new staff - who are willing to teach school/junior players (primary, secondary, within the curriculum, extra curricular, junior volleyball club, youth club or BB group, colleges of further education, colleges, universities) is the first requirement. Thereafter the identification of similar groups of players and the opportunity to participate/compete in an appropriate, organised competition format becomes important.

Choice of the most appropriate festival will depend upon the teaching programme and confirmed levels of interest/response from local people.

The working groups will liaise with the sportscotland Volleyball Co-ordinator at the SVA National Office regarding in-service training or local seminars that specifically cater for primary and secondary teachers or youth/junior club teachers, local festivals; player development clinics; camps etc.

DISTRICT TREASURER

The Treasurer should, if possible, be someone who has some experience of dealing with finance. The amounts of money that he/she will handle are relatively small but the Treasurer should be a good administrator and understand how income and expenditure budgets operate and be able to communicate this as necessary to other members.

The Treasurer should be:

- 1) Able to manage income and expenditure from player registration monies and any other sources of funds.
- 2) Able to control the District budget with regard to district projects. This will entail briefing of coaching staff, competition and event organisers in terms of income and expenditure requirements, invoices and procedures for settling bills.
- 3) Willing to accumulate information on local sources of funds and how to go about applying for these, i.e. district sports council, national sports council, youth and community regional educational funds, district leisure and recreation departments.
- 4) Able to advise local groups as to how to access these funds.

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- 5) Familiar with the letting policies, the charges and user categories which operate within letting policies.
- 6) Able to operate the local association account which needs two signatories, those of the Treasurer and District Organiser.
- 7) Able to produce the financial statement on behalf of the District Association, to the National Association at the end of the financial year.

Any member of the District Association can be paid an honorarium for his/her function according to the wishes of the Committee. Anyone interested in working within their district in one of these roles should contact their district representative on the Executive.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION MODEL FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

The following pages give an idea of some of the essential, inter-related features of local development requiring careful consideration. The features are mutually inter-dependent and whilst some can be pursued separately, the overall picture for development does need to be retained.

- a) **School Curriculum/Extra Curricular**
 - In-service training and ongoing staff development
 - Local and National Festivals
 - Linkage to junior sections/local teams and clubs

- b) **Recreational Volleyball (4v4) and Local Competition Structures (6v6)**
 - Centralised venue
 - Multi court options/participation and maximum number of games
 - Regular access at optimum time
 - Ongoing evaluation and rate of progress/growth

- c) **Player Improvement Clinics**
 - Player improvement sessions/team development
 - Inter-district competition 6v6/access to appropriate facilities
 - Additional clinics and camps for juniors

- d) **Junior Development Centres/Coach Development Programmes**
 - Special centres for juniors with suitable staff
 - Age bands, male and female U14 and U17 years
 - Programme base with 2-4 year player development emphasis and staff training to ensure volume of practice/progress/experience to be provided
 - Ongoing staff training for coaches and player development profile

- e) **Club Development Centres**
 - Community based club - sport specific requirements for volleyball
 - Multi team sections and facility access times/location for club concept
 - Facility access and standard of play relative to district, national and European requirements.
 - Training of staff coaches, referees, administrators and chairpersons
 - Budgetary implications

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f) District, Regional and National Standards

- Communication and Membership to local and National Volleyball Association
- Training of Officials/Coaches/Administrators
- Integration of Calendars, schedules, systems of affiliation, player registration, administration and organisation of programmes
- Complimentary agencies to be integrated

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR A LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A Development Plan should be based upon workable practices and realistic expectations of key local people in terms of their competency, time and availability. It should take into account both the current situation and a "model" of development which is more likely to be effective.

It should project forward with appropriate timescales for gradual growth in a qualitative sense (e.g. improved competency of teaching, improved organisation of recreational volleyball tournaments on a regular basis, or better recruitment procedures and relationships between local groups).

It should detail the specific requirements and assistance needed locally such as: access to facilities for club expansion; finance; training; the need to pay part-time employees to take up key positions (e.g. Recreational Tournament Organiser; Junior Development Coaches).

An intrinsic part of the model, is the evaluation of local clubs which should consider:

- Do they operate as a club or team(s) or a collection of individuals?
- What is the level of quality of key personnel (Coaches, Chairpersons, Administrators, Treasurer, Referees) in terms of experience; training; efficiency and involvement? What values and ethos do they operate within?
- What growth potential is there in terms of the number of volleyball participants, their quality and desire to improve?
- What limits or obstacles, which, if they were removed, would best facilitate development?
- Is there a desire to see the club (and the sport) grow and a willingness to act with that idea in mind? For example how much time is spent working with juniors? What is the quality of the teaching and coaching going on and how does this relate to a plan for player progress and development of standards?

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- Is there potential for a community/district focal point for volleyball and the ability to sustain youth/juniors or multiple team sections?

The model adopted should take advantage of the experience gained through other submissions and "models" that have been proven to work well and which allow future models to avoid the repetition of pitfalls and mistakes.

Some form of evaluation and criteria for success should be devised in relation to the specific aims such as recruitment, teaching or organisation, and this should be used to maintain and assess the plan's progress.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

PLAYERS

Recreational Player Improvement Clinics

The purpose of these clinics is to introduce beginners, or those with limited playing experience, to Recreational (4v4) volleyball. Recommended time is 9 hours. e.g. 6 x 1.5 hours.

This allows the following content to be covered to a sufficient level to encourage the participants to remain in the volleyball circuit:

- **Enjoyment** - Preparatory type activities related to individual ball familiarisation, control and activity. Tag for footwork and co-ordination and 1v1, 2v2 for game sequences.
- **Tactical** - Court positioning for defence. Individual attempts to control the ball. Group attempts to control the ball with 2 and 3 touches. Rotation/scoring.
- **Technique** - Volleypass and Digpass linked to control - outline for 2 and 3 man service reception units - defence emphasis. With ball up in the air for the volleypass and set, underhand service.
- **Athletic** - Included within the above activities, balance of weight, court footwork, relaxation with synchronisation.

The presentation of the whole course is through a friendly, social atmosphere of participation and active involvement for everyone. **Contact your District's SVA Staff Tutor or District Organiser for details.**

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TEACHERS AND COACHES (SVA COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME)

The broad aim of the teachers and coaches courses is to bring about a wider understanding and increased participation by children, youth and adults. In order to do this, the number of qualified teachers/coaches must increase. The purpose of these courses is to:

- i) Provide up to date content and methods of teaching and coaching that present the game in the most attractive fashion for all players of different ages, abilities and interests.
- ii) Provide knowledge and awareness of the exacting, but rewarding job of a competent teacher or coach.
- iii) Train candidates so that they may teach or coach successfully to the highest standards that are appropriate for the players and teams they intend to work with.

The education process for the training of teachers and coaches is an important and long term one. Ultimately, the intention is that the SVA programme should be comparable to those standards expected and attained in Western Europe. The quality of the SVA courses is very high and at the present time the courses listed below are available (please contact the SVA office for more information).

SVA Introductory Award (15 Hours)

This course is directed towards prospective coaches, youth leaders, parents, junior and secondary school teachers and players. It is intended as an introduction to the basic ideas of teaching volleyball. The course also caters for adults with little or no knowledge of the sport and for players seeking useful teaching information. Participants will be expected to take part in practical sessions. These are carefully presented so that their relevance from an experiential and teaching point of view can be understood.

The practical and theoretical aspects of the course will be taken from the SVA Introductory Award Course outline and Horst Baacke's book "Mini Volleyball". A broad outline of the content of the course is as follows:

- Preparatory type activities that facilitate movement learning and enjoyment.

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- Game objectives in elementary attack and defence terms, simple positioning and anticipation.
- Game sequence.
- Individual technique and tactics of volleys and digpass.
- Practice Organisation 2 v 2: 3 v 3 situations/attack and defence possibilities.
- Practical refereeing in mini games and match organisation..

SVA Teachers Award –

(This course is in two parts and to attend it you must hold an SVA Introductory award.)

SVA Teachers Award I (30 hours)

The first part continues to provide basic information on the game. This ensures that all those who wish to teach have adequate material which will enable an enjoyable and satisfactory start to be made by beginners in the sport.

An outline of the course content is below:

- Game balance, control and touch requirements.
- Movement/Orientation
- Coordination/Timing and Balance
- Preparatory activities and individual techniques and tactics of spike, field defence, service and one man block.
- 3 v 3 volleyball/mini volleyball rotational order, team service reception and team field defence.
- Learning, variety of practice, errors and success, teaching and communication process.
- Development of volleyball in schools for beginners, selection of equipment and materials, presentation and methodology.
- Transition to 6v6 service reception (5 man), setting from three and rotation order.
- Mini season/ sustaining team interest.

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SVA Teachers Award II (30 hours)

This second part of the Teachers Award begins to promote a more comprehensive and detailed picture of the game's possibilities. It is intended to provide a sound teaching basis for the game within the curriculum, junior club sections and in dealing with an improving standard of play. (To attend this course you must hold an SVA Teachers Award I)

The course content is outlined below:

- Assessment of individual player performance, their technical and tactical features. 2v2: 4v4.
- Assessment, identification and relation of key teaching areas with game type situations. 6v6.
- Practical teaching via game type situations.
- Stabilisation of play actions, consistency and range of performance.
- Development of attack options and an introduction to specialisation of the setter.
- Specialisation of players and their abilities, allround and specific.
- Service reception/game sequences/transition from defence to attack.
- The teaching/coaching process
- Body weight conditioning, Flexibility-an introduction

SVA Club Coaches Award Part 1

This course assumes a satisfactory completion of the previous courses or their equivalent (ie. Standard Grade: Higher Grade PI & PII). It is intended for those who wish to coach players on a regular basis and who will be involved with them over an extended period of time. Very often these players will be of a junior standard or adults playing in either recreational or national league competitions.

The course presentation is a mixture of practice and theory and working with junior players in a player development camp context. The opportunities to discuss and consider practice management, evaluation and assessment are therefore of immediate relevance. The following headings give the overall framework for the course:

- Coaching philosophy and working with young people or adults in a player/team development context.
- Health and safety of players, coaching ethics and practice.

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- Evaluation of players from a variety of perspectives.
- Personnel profile.
- Game analysis, simple numbers and their interpretation.
- Physical conditioning, muscle balance, base level bodyweight control, tempo and cadence of movement, recovery and quality of form.
- Volleyball-specific information:
 - Specialisation and its gradual development/potential and significance.
 - Developing system of play around your player profile, e.g. 4 spikers and 2 setters or 5 spikers and 1 setter.
 - Individual player technique/tactics aligned to options and ability.
 - Integrated game phases and flow/adjustment of players.
- Match coaching: rotational order/use of players/time outs/recruitment and sustaining your team. Motivation; enjoyment and realistic expectations.
- Revision of Practice Management – Learning Contexts and Methods.

Following completion of this course candidates are then eligible for a Coaching Practice Award (with the support of **sportscotland**'s coaching team) of £300 that enables them to work with a tutor on the development and use of the course material with their own team. This enables clarification of the information, assistance from an experienced coach and ongoing practice with their particular group of players over a period of 4-6 months. This would be in the context of the Junior National League, District League or National League.

Following completion of the Club Coaches Award Part I and the practical part of the course, candidates are then eligible to attend the **Club Coaches Award Part II**. This again is a four day course followed by a practical period of work.

Club Coaches Award Part II

The content of this course is as follow:

- Further emphasis upon the conditioning part of individual and team preparation within a year's programme.
- Establishing a base level and assessment of performance, generating data and information. From here make a more specific programme that would be addressed in a cyclic pattern within a season.

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- Learning theory for implications for practice management and player development.
- Video analysis of the game and the generation of simple statistics for information and interpretation.
- Adjusting practice management within the season and according to personnel development as well as that of the team. Playing well and enjoying improving, competing and the “duel” with an opponent.
- Tactical decision making of the players inside the game context and phases, as well as specialist player development within practice.
- Scottish player profiles: becoming a good player: strengths and weaknesses and an overall timescale for making progress that is 2-3 years (patience, competence, acquiring practice habits and expectations of progress).
- Communicating and involving players in the overall process, making tangible gains in personal performance and having goals that are process orientated rather than end dominated.
- Working in training camps and creating an accumulative effect in each game phase.
- Lifestyle, diet, time management, group dynamics, PNF stretching, injury prevention, growth and maturity.
- Any other appropriate information that would be consistent with the previous work and the Club Coaches Award Part II.

Upon completion of the course candidates are eligible for a Coaching Practice Award (with the support of **sportscotland**'s coaching team of £600). Further particulars of this award are available upon request. Candidates must be working with their team on two or more sessions per week and a match schedule in either the JNL or the NL.

OFFICIALS

These courses are run in keeping with the broad aim of the SVA which is to bring about a wider understanding of the sport and participation of children, youths and adults. The overall purpose of the courses is:

- To train candidates so that they may eventually officiate to the highest possible standard.
- To provide suitably qualified people in clubs and schools, enabling matches to be played under the jurisdiction of competent officials.

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- To provide knowledge and awareness of the exacting, but rewarding, job of a competent official.

The courses which are offered at different levels have now been rewritten and adjusted so as to create a more comprehensive overall programme and standard. The initial grades and match experience will have to be completed within a specified time scale, and more referees should be able to achieve the standard of a Grade II licence holder. Access to each subsequent level of training is dependent upon maintaining a valid referee licence and the achievement of the recognised standard of competence is signified by the successful completion of the Grade II course (after 5 formal training days).

Grade IV Official: Part 1 (16 hours)

To become a qualified Grade IV Official you have to attend a Part 1 officials course, conducted by an SVA Staff Referee. This part of the scheme comprises two formal training days, over a week-end.

The syllabus assumes little or no previous knowledge or experience of officiating. The course is practical in that there are games to play in as well as to referee. Participants are required to bring their own whistle, notebook and pencil in order to supplement the course literature and take relevant notes on the theory and practice covered on the course.

The two day course includes both theory and practice covering the following areas

Theory

- Principles and philosophy of refereeing.
- Handling and control of match procedures.
- Basic rule interpretations.
- Signals, scoring
- The work of first and second official, scorer and line judges.

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Practical

- Identification of certain practical situations
- Recognising simple systems and how they can be adjusted in team play
- Interpretation of ball contact – to include “catch” and “double contact” – and the various playing faults.

At the end of the two-day course a multiple choice/short answer examination is taken.

Provided a pass is obtained the person will be sent their Referee's Licence card, **which must be completed and returned with a recent passport photograph in order for it to be validated by the SVA Office.** Once this has been done the card is returned to the candidate. This provides verification of the award and in addition acts as the official licence. This licence must be presented at all matches as it confirms the referee's credentials to officiate at all district and school games, most tournaments and at certain levels of National league competition. (See current legislation relating to the required grade of first and second officials at National League matches).

The validation of the licence takes place on an annual basis and entitles the candidate to not only officiate, but is also their eligibility record for admission to the next level of training course. **Within two years of securing their licence, a referee holding a Grade IV – Part 1 must complete Part II of their training at this level.** This consists of a further week-end's training. Completion of Grade IV – Part II allows the licence holder to either be confirmed as a Grade III Official or be advised to remain at Grade IV to obtain more experience and practice. In the latter case, the referee **can still re-apply** for Part II of the course, but must do so **within another two-year period, or their licence is invalidated.**

For more information on Grade IV Part I courses contact **Neil Macdonald**, Referees Commission.

Grade IV Official: Part II (16 hours) /Grade III Ratification

This course should begin to focus the referee towards the refinement of a smooth grooved technique. This is a relatively easy step, comprising more games but with a more in-depth analysis of each referee's performance. There is a strong play element of the course, which candidates should be aware of. Successful completion of Part II qualifies the candidate as a Grade III Official. The

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candidate must submit his/her licence to the SVA Office for upgrading. Only after this validation is the Grade III award ratified.

The Grade IV – Part II course content is as follows:

Theory

- Signals
- Substitution techniques and time outs
- Dealing with human behaviour which can lead to flashpoints in the game
- De-fusing difficult situations after they occur
- Advanced team systems of play and what to look for
- How to establish consistency in ball handling decisions
- Keeping track of the setter
- Understanding the net fault rule
- Acting as line judge at important events
- Acting as scorer, how to check the score sheet

Practical matches

- 1st Referee
- 2nd Referee
- Line judge and scorer
- Individual referee tutorials

After a further period of six months to a year, gaining regular experience as both a 1st and a 2nd Referee, at matches of a suitably high standard within the National League and Cup Competitions, the Grade III Official is ready to take the next step to **enrol on a Grade II course. He/she must do so within three years of attaining Grade III ratification and there must be continuous revalidation of their licence during that time.** .

For information on Grade IV – Part II (Grade III) courses contact **Brian McDougall**, Referees Commission.

Grade II Official

The Grade II course is conducted over a period of one day and training is presented alongside a one-day tournament (either a specially run invitation event or by arrangement with a Club Tournament). The course builds on the practical experience of the Grade III Official. **This is essential training required to reach the benchmark position, Grade II, which is seen as the level necessary**

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to meet the demands of modern volleyball. SVA Staff Officials give seminars, personal tutorials and assistance intended to clarify the individual candidates' knowledge and performance under match conditions.

An outline of the course is as follows:

i. Practicals

- 1st Referee
- 2nd Referee

ii. Seminars that examine practical performance beyond the straightforward mechanics of decision making and include:

Introduction – What is expected of a Grade II Official?. Current rules and interpretations

Control of the game

1st Referee/2nd Referee liaison and perceptual difficulties

Use of other officials

Ball handling

Play at the net

Game tactics and how they relate

to officials

The changing role of the 2nd Referee

Revision of the mechanics of refereeing

Some referee facts of life

Tournament matches and tutorials

Grading and final scores

Completion of the Grade II course will allow the licence holder to either be ratified as a Grade II Official or advised to stay at the Grade III level and address particular aspects of their performance so that they can achieve the Grade II training standard in the future. They can then re-apply for this level of course again within three years.

The award of a Grade II licence represents completion of the current

training programme for SVA referees. It is hoped that with further

experience and practice candidates will then wish to apply for a Grade I

course. Provided their licence is renewed on an annual basis, its validity is

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extendable until such time as FIVB rule changes, or particular re-training are advised by the SVA Referees Commission.

For information on Grade II Courses contact **Alan Bryce**, Referees Commission.

Please note the following points:

- **Candidates who enrol on any course after the Grade IV – Part I course must be in possession of a valid licence.** This must be presented at the start of the course and be submitted by the course tutor along with their course records for revalidation and re-issue. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that their personal details on the licence are accurate and up-to-date, or to inform the SVA office of any changes to these particulars.
- **If a referee allows their current licence to lapse in any one year, they may apply for this to be re-issued at a later date but this will be at the grade below their original licence record.**
- **A referee may apply for a licence at any time in the current season up to, and including 31 March. After this date their licence will have lapsed and their grading will be adjusted accordingly.**
- **The time code for all referees to apply for a current licence (both district and national league referees) started from the season 2000-2001.**
- **All candidates who are in possession of a Grade IV qualification will have this adjusted to Grade IV – Part I qualification and they should therefore attend the Grade IV - Part II course within the stipulated period of time.** All those candidates who have been assessed and are currently holding a **Grade III(O) referees licence will have to attend a Grade II course by 31 March 2003 or otherwise complete Part II of the new course training programme** and be revalidated. All those referees who possess either a Grade II or Grade I award **should ensure that their**

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licence is valid and complete as far as their personal particulars are concerned.

- For information on the respective courses, please contact the following:
 - Grade IV – Part I Neil Macdonald
 - Grade IV – Part II (Grade III) Brian McDougall
 - Grade II Alan Bryce
 - Grade I Sandy Steel
- Particulars of all courses will be carried in the SVA Newsletter whenever possible. It may also be possible to organise a course if 2 or 3 clubs have a sufficient number of candidates and that this can go ahead at a local level provided there are sufficient numbers.
- A system of grant awards are available to assist both clubs and individuals to attend the new courses. Details are available on the SVA website (www.scottishvolleyball.org), will be circulated in the SVA Newsletter and also held at the SVA office as well as being available from the SVA Referees Commission.

Grade I Official

This course is regarded by the Referees Commission as the top course for Scottish Officials. After validation as a Grade II SVA Referee, applicants to the Grade I course must complete a further eight National League matches (four of which must be as referee to a Men's First Division game and four as a second official at any National League game).

The Grade I course takes place over a period of one weekend (Friday-Sunday). During this time the existing knowledge and practical abilities of each candidate are refined in an individual and selective manner. Special attention is given to those broad areas where officials should be of the highest standard. The areas for assessment are indicated to the candidates and are designed to highlight the degree of competency, awareness and sophistication that a match official can bring to the game. An outline of the course is as follows:

Day One (Friday 8-10pm)

Theory - Image, New Rules, Uniformity of Interpretations and Signals, Referees as Managers, Self Assessment Guide, Assessment Guidelines

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Day Two (Saturday)

- (a) Assessments in practicals as first Official or second Official. The purpose is to clarify areas where each candidate should improve.
- (b) A Guide to the assessment of others.
Comparison to Grades IV, III, II, I.
How to be an effective Assessor.

Final assessment is carried out by one of the FIVB Staff Referees and is based on the criteria issued prior to the course. These criteria may be subject to change. Candidates will also be expected to present a short discussion (10 minutes) on a topic selected by the Staff Officials.

Day Three (Sunday)

- (a) Assessments and self-assessments in practicals as first and second Official. The purpose is to clarify areas where each candidate should improve and what ought to be realistic short and long term targets.
- (b) Written examination

Final assessment is carried out by one or more of the International Staff Referees and is based on a series of performances over the forthcoming year, within the SVA Appointment System.

At the discretion of the SVA Referees Commission the full award as Grade I Official is then granted, and the licence should be returned to the SVA offices for upgrading.

For information of Grade I courses please contact Sandy Steel, Referees Commission

Since the number of Grade I Officials is likely to be limited in future, possession of a Grade I status should not be seen as indefinite; but will depend upon **continued high level performance linked to a ranking scheme, regular observation and reporting will be a future feature of the scheme.**

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Courses for Scorers and Line Judges

The Refereeing Courses from Grade IV to Grade I are the major training courses for referees in all aspects of the FIVB rules and match officiating. However, the shorter courses for scorers and line judges should be of interest and value to club members who undertake these specific roles on match days. Courses may be mounted by individual clubs, District Associations or other interested parties. Since they each last for only two hours they may be scheduled for a mid-week evening or weekend.

i) Scorers Course

A minimum of six candidates is required to run such a course which can be accommodated in any room with desks and a blackboard, and ideally, an overhead projector, screen and video with monitor. The tutor will also bring a Scoresheet to allow candidates individual copies. The cost to each trainee is £2.50 and although there is no examination, a certificate of attendance is awarded on completion of the course.

ii) Line judges Course

The course aims to give a thorough insight to the role of the line judge in a very practical situation in which trainees alternate between playing in small sided games and acting as line judges. This necessitates a Games Hall with one or more practice courts and a minimum of twelve candidates each paying a £2.50 course fee. Play is interspersed with short demonstrations of relevant match situations and feedback from the tutor, but remains active enough to maintain the enjoyment level while increasing the competence of the trainees. Again there is no examination although a certificate of attendance is awarded.