

COVENTRY & WARWICK

RIGA

VOLLEYBALL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT.

2021-2022



#GORIGA

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YOUR COMMITTEE.



MIRIAM ANDERSON

CHAIRPERSON REPORT.

It has been another fantastic season for Riga Volleyball club.

Our women's first team finished comfortably in division 1 whilst our women's second team gained promotion to Division 2 and the men's team gained promotion to Division 1. All three teams continue to show fantastic commitment to the club and the sport and I thank you all for your hard work and enthusiasm.

Our club has continued to develop and we have reached the point where we are able to introduce a second men's team into the National League. We welcome Mike onto our coaching team as he

takes on the role of coaching both men's teams with Marta's support.

Our recreational sessions have continued to grow in popularity and we are looking to expand these sessions in the near future to cater for the increasing demand.

Our Juniors sessions continue to be a huge success and our advanced juniors even competed in many competitions this season at both a local and national level. Huge thanks to Clare, Jon,



Jules and Brendan for the extraordinary effort they continue to put into developing our junior programme and to all of the club members who have volunteered at sessions.

I am very proud that Riga volleyball club was runner up for Club of the Year at the Volleyball England awards this year. Well deserved recognition for the huge effort put in by our committee, coaches, volunteers and players to make this club what it is.

CHAIRPERSON REPORT. [cont]

Riga volleyball club has been involved in the Commonwealth games celebration hosting volleyball taster sessions at the B2022 festival sites to promote volleyball and our club. A huge thank you to all those who volunteered for this – over 150 members of the public were tempted to try some volleyball in the park which is an amazing achievement.

Several of our club members were also far more involved with Volleyball at the Commonwealth games. Our very own Alex Smith was coordinating the entire volleyball competition with months of hard work and preparation – it looked fantastic Alex, congratulations! And Chris Jones was the Team Leader for the England beach volleyball squad achieving an amazing 3rd place for the men's team (the first ever beach volleyball medal at a multisport

games) and 5th place for the women's team (equalling previous years achievement). Clare Francis was also involved in the organising of the event and several of our juniors also volunteered as ball collectors and rakers. Beach volleyball was a huge success at the Commonwealth games this year and it was absolutely fantastic to see so many of our members actively involved.

Our club continues to develop and expand thanks to all of you. Huge thanks to our committee who volunteer countless hours to improve volleyball for every one of our members. I wish all squads the best of luck in the coming season. Let us continue to enjoy this sport we all love so much and to continue improving our club.





JULIA PROTESARU

GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT.

3

COMMITTEE
MEETINGS

We held 3 committee meetings throughout the year. All meetings were virtual. We covered the Commonwealth Games, challenges around the increasing demand of the recreational session, the development of the junior programme.

We're seeing a boom in the number of enquiries we're receiving. We've had approximately 352 people enquiring about our services - that's on average one per day. This year it's not possible to provide a full breakdown of the split of the enquiries due to them being too many.

I'll be able to once again provide a split in the 2023 AGM report, as we've invested in a form/email service to help with that. I'm aiming to reduce this workload for next year as between me and Clare, we've sent 447 emails (answering queries, qualifying players such as recreational or juniors and then making recommendations). This means slower time to answer messages and it's easy to miss them, which means we might not catch everyone in time.

Total enquiries in the last 12 months (approx)

352

Up by 260% from 135 enquiries in 2021

JULIA PROTESARU

GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT.

Overwhelming, the majority of the enquiries (I'd say around 50% if not more) have come from recreational players (increasingly still, from complete beginners whom we've had to refer to other clubs - a trend that continues since we started tracking it last year), and those enquiring about the junior programme.

Overall, we are up by 260% in enquiries compared to previous year's report (135 enquiries in 2020/21, 50 enquiries 2019/20).

These 2 smaller samples of enquiries can help inform a bit of an insight.

Via the session taster form:



FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM ENQUIRIES

- 91 for recreational
- 12 for NVL women
- 15 for NVL men

Via social channels:

- 16 for recreational
- 3 for NVL women
- 6 for NVL men
- 6 for juniors

Enquiries source breakdown:

321 (approx.) came via the website (91%)
31 service enquiries via Facebook or Instagram (9%)



WEBSITE ENQUIRIES

CLARE FRANCIS

TREASURER REPORT.

The detailed financial reports are attached at annex 1 together with the auditor's letter. The fully audited accounts show an overall surplus this year of £6,988.35. This figure is inflated because of i) a release into the accounts of £1224 uninvoiced sports hall time from 6 years ago) and ii) a significant number of write backs from the Covid affected season. It also follows last year where we made a deficit for the year of £1,115.09.

Overall though the year has been extremely positive with membership across all sections booming. We have also managed to continue to tightly control our costs through strong relationships with our venue providers and other partners.

This surplus allows us to invest by entering a second mens team into National League with confidence that it will be sustainable for us as a Club and to start to expand the junior offering.

A massive thank you to all members, volunteers, parents and supporters for their continued support and prompt payment of membership fees. It makes a difference and is very much appreciated.



INCOME HEADLINES

Our income over the year was £26,787.30 – significantly up on last year which was heavily affected by Covid. High membership across all sections of the Club has meant that revenues have been healthy across the board.

Specific highlights include:

- Mens NVL has had strong membership and a good mix of full paying and student members as well as junior players that have developed in our junior teams joining the squads. They have also invited in ad hoc members when training numbers were low and utilised the stripe online booking system for this which has meant an additional healthy revenue stream and kept members engaged enabling another team to be entered into NVL.
- The junior sessions remain well attended and are provided on term booking basis. Revenue from these sessions was strong and

met the cost of providing them. In addition the advanced junior group entered the National Volleyball England Grand Prix U18 Tier 1 competitions – the junior revenue covered this cost too. The level of interest from juniors is outstanding meaning that we were able to have strong numbers at all sessions.

- Recreational sessions also remain strong. The online booking system enables collection of revenue efficiently and effectively. The sessions are popular and sell out very fast each week so are at capacity with regular new enquiries coming in. For the outdoor sessions we have again acquired a permit for using Newbold Comyn which was provided free of charge. We may need to consider if a charge is applied for future years.



EXPENDITURE HEADLINES

- **Our largest expense by far remains sports hall costs. We have good deals with the existing halls – our costs for AT7 and Alan Higgs have increased but remain competitive (£22.50 - £28 per hour per court). These are very competitive rates in the local market but still mean each training session costs between £45 to £56 per squad. Bablake remains higher cost (£39 per hour (£78 per session)). There is a significant lack of availability at any other venues that have volleyball equipment which constrains our capacity.**

- This year we continued with the online booking system. Our total charges for this were £340.27 (Stripe charges for payment system). The committee has reviewed this and consider this more than pays for itself in easing the

administration of collecting payments and ensuring that they are all fully collected. However, we will continue to collect NVL and advance junior payments by bank transfer to avoid additional commission on those payments.

- Competition and league entry fees remain balanced. However, we understand Volleyball England is likely to increase mileage costs for referees (which have not been adjusted for a number of years) to reflect changes in fuel prices. This will impact our cost base given we are running 4 NVL teams.

- This year we invested in £467.51 in equipment including first aid equipment, electronic whistles, floor plates, a ball cart, bags for juniors and first aid equipment. Next year we will likely need some

additional equipment given the additional men's NVL team

- This year collection (and payment) of subs on time has again been very strong – assisted considerably by the online payment system and a pro-active approach from Team Managers. The Club only has four current debtors all of whom are aware. Massive thank you to the team managers for prompting their teams and to each and every member for making their payments on a timely basis - it makes a massive difference.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2022/23

- I would recommend no change to fee subscriptions for the coming year. Provided membership remains strong (which Team Managers anticipate is the case) then the membership payments will be sustainable for another year despite some cost increases.

- Whilst the fees have not increased for more than 12 years (despite inflation), this recommendation of no increase can be supported given the committee's continued efforts to manage costs pro-actively. Membership will need to remain high to support this recommendation but at this stage the committee has no reason to believe it will not.

- **This would mean the following subs for 2022/23 season would be as follows:**

SESSION	ADULTS	STUDENTS
NVL	£400 (£50 per month for 8 months) plus £37 paid direct to Volleyball England for player registration	£240 (£30 per month for 8 months) plus £37 (£24 junior) paid direct to Volleyball England for player registration
NVL training only	£28 per month	£20 per month
Recreational	£6.50 per session	£4.50 per session
Juniors – Intermediate and Beginner (1 hour per week)	N/a	£40 per term
Juniors – Advanced (2 hours per week plus Junior National Grand Prix entry fees)	N/a	£70 per term

TEAM REPORTS.



CHRIS JONES

NVL MEN TEAM REPORT.

🏆 The Men's team had another fantastic season, achieving a back to back promotion, so this coming season will be playing in Division 1.

This success has enabled us to enter a second men's team into NVL Division 3, to offer a development pathway to players coming through the juniors or enabling anyone to develop their skills further and get competitive court time experience.

🙏 A massive thank you is needed for Marta, who without her coaching and support the squad would not be where it is today.

Also thanks to Mike for covering training sessions for any she was unable to attend during the second half of the season. In addition Mike has now hung up his playing trainers and will be part of the club in a purely coaching role, with Marta helping in an Assistant capacity.

We are really looking forward to the 2022-23 season and excited to see what the 2 teams

can achieve in both the League and Cup, under Mike's watchful coaching eye. Mike will be taking training for both teams, with the men now training side by side. When it comes to Match Day coaching Mike will be primarily looking after the Men's Div 1 team and Chris being the Match Day coach for the Div 3 team.

Bring on the 2022-23 season!





SOPHIE ZILLMANN

NVL WOMEN 1 TEAM REPORT.



The team's had a really good season in Division 1. We finished mid-table, developed a lot and gained loads of experience, while enjoying playing at this level. And we're excited to go into the new season in the same division.

Where we've had a bit of a challenge is that we've gained and lost players due to circumstances that have nothing to do with the club - people going away, pregnancies.

We're faces with a similar situation now, as we're going into the new season with a bit of uncertainty, missing about 3 key players who need to be replaced.

It's an opportunity for 2nd team players to move up in the league and level of play, but that might leave with the 2nd team without a full squad. This isn't great, especially since the team has been promoted and they'd be passed on that same challenge.

We're working with Coventry University to try and fill that gap, but we've identified a few from 2nd team who could move up - this is to be discussed if we can't find an alternative.

We're really happy to have had Jon coach us throughout yet another season, and we're grateful as he continues to coach us this upcoming one. Thank you Jon for all the hard work and dedication. Mike has also helped us on a number of times this last season when Jon was unavailable - thank you!

On the volunteering side, there aren't enough 1st team players that have been helping out; it's always the same people helping out with Juniors. Secondary to numbers, we need to engage a bit more with our players and do a bit more team building. Prior to Covid we did more team building activities, and that's been lost. Team building builds relationships, and often we've been successful in getting volunteers on board when making use of a friendly favour. This will help more people volunteer in the future and help the team bond better.

Lastly I'd like to thank Clare and Committee for always running the club so smoothly.



FRANCESCA DAMIANI

NVL WOMEN 2 TEAM REPORT.

It has been an excellent year for the team! We won the division at the last possible game!

We want to thank for all the help and effort to our coach Zofia - without her this result wouldn't have been possible. She is stepping down from her coach position for the new season.

A big thanks then go to all team members, who showed a massive commitment to the team by being present at all the trainings until the very end.

For the following season, the team is really eager to play in Division 2. We lost a few players due to maternity (congratulations all!), but we hope others will return. The numbers at the moment are good although we might face some challenges here in the new season, with the first team lacking bigger numbers and there's an interest in some of ours.

One negative point is that we need to find a coach for the next season to help the team. Otherwise, we are looking forward to being back in the hall and playing in Division 2!





DECLAN PERRY

RECREATIONAL SESSIONS.

102

REC SESSION INDIVIDUALS SIGN UPS

Interest in Riga's recreational volleyball provision – especially the indoor sessions – continued to grow during the 2021/22 season, with demand regularly outstripping the number of places available.

- 44 indoor sessions
- 873 places booked
- by 102 individual players (up by 75% compared to last year)



DECLAN PERRY

RECREATIONAL SESSIONS.

Indoor season

The indoor recreational season kicked off in September, with sessions held every Monday evening at Bablake School in Coventry, from 8:00pm to 10:00pm.

In the first part of the season, 21 places were made available per session, so that three teams of seven could play matches. The sessions consisted of a short warm up, followed by games to 15, with one team rotating off at the end of each match.

The recreational sessions continued to be both fun and competitive, catering to intermediate players and above. They were typically attended by a core group of regulars, as well as some people who joined less frequently.

Over the course of the year, 39 indoor sessions were held, with 766 places booked. In total, 132 people booked sessions, demonstrating that individuals typically attended multiple sessions.

Across the indoor season, 80% of individuals attended more than one session



RECREATIONAL SESSIONS.

[cont]

Every Tuesday morning, a link to book the following week's session was posted on the recreational session WhatsApp group.

The sessions booked out extremely quickly – sometimes in under a minute – so a waiting list system for spots that opened up because of cancellation was implemented.

In addition, several options were explored to increase capacity.

Halfway through the season a series of trial sessions were run in which a long net was rigged length ways across the hall so that four games could be played simultaneously on the

badminton courts, increasing session capacity from 21 to 28.

However, after considering feedback from the trial sessions, we decided not to continue with this set up.

Instead, session capacity was increased from 21 to 24, meaning that each of the three teams would have an extra rolling substitute. Sessions booked out less quickly after this change was made.

Outdoor season

Following the indoor season, recreational volleyball moved outdoors in mid-July, with sessions taking place on Thursday evenings

from 6:30pm to 8:30pm on Newbold Comyn in Leamington Spa.

Many of the indoor regulars joined the outdoor sessions – and these sessions also had strong attendance from Riga junior players too.

In total, 107 outdoor spots were booked over five sessions, by 46 different people. Two further recreational sessions are set to take place before the start of the indoor season.

I would like to thank Riga – especially Jules and Clare – for helping to make the recreational a success over the last year. For the 2022/23 season, the Graftons will manage the recreational sessions, supported by Luismi.



JON CHETHAM

CLUB DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT.

The club development plan was last reviewed and published in 2020. It was a committee intention to review during 2021-22 but this has not happened due to other priorities. Having said that, the 2020 plan had a 3-5 year horizon so the majority of goals remain relevant.

From a performance playing perspective, the club has achieved a number of its targets set in 2020 ahead of schedule. A status/progress statement for each of

the 2020 'Goals' is given below. It is assumed that the order in which the goals are listed reflects the priority.

Of note is the huge advance our junior programme has made despite this not being one of the specific 2020 development plan goals.



CLUB DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT. [cont]

	KEY GOALS FOR THE NEXT 3-5 YEARS (2020 DEV PLAN)	STATUS / PROGRESS AUG 2022
1	Continue to have successful mens and womens teams in the National League providing competitive playing opportunities.	Exceeded
2	Womens first team win promotion into Div 1	Achieved
3	Mens first team win promotion into Div 2	Achieved and exceeded
4	If mens team achieve promotion, aim to introduce second mens team into NVL div 3 providing player numbers and commitment can support two teams	Achieved
5	If player numbers expand, aim for womens second team to gain promotion into Div 2 with creation of 3rd team into Div 3 (mainly consisting of juniors and relative beginners)	On plan - Women 2nd team promoted. Idea of 3rd women's team to be reviewed given we have competitive outlet for junior women via u18s.
6	Increase our Club members that are involved in volunteering (through scoring, lining, refereeing or coaching).	Some success with U18s junior coach (Brendan), addition of Men's coach (Mike), and support from u18s parents. However, we rely heavily on a small group of women's NVL players. Work to be done.
7	Increase numbers of qualified coaches and develop existing coaches within the Club to ensure members continue to be able to benefit from high quality coaching.	In progress. Hosting a Level 1 course will help towards this goal. Short term challenge with NVL roles to be filled for Women and Men 2nd teams.
8	Find better training/match venue solutions	We have added Whitely Academy to our portfolio, and equipment at AT7 upgraded. Further team/recreational expansion will require additional capacity.
9	Change recreational sessions to enable us to cater for beginners and introduce them to the sport	No progress
10	Aim to introduce beach recreational sessions over summer and tournament entries	No progress
11	To prepare for increased interest in beach volleyball after Birmingham 2022 and be able to accommodate beginners and introduce beach volleyball to the area	No progress

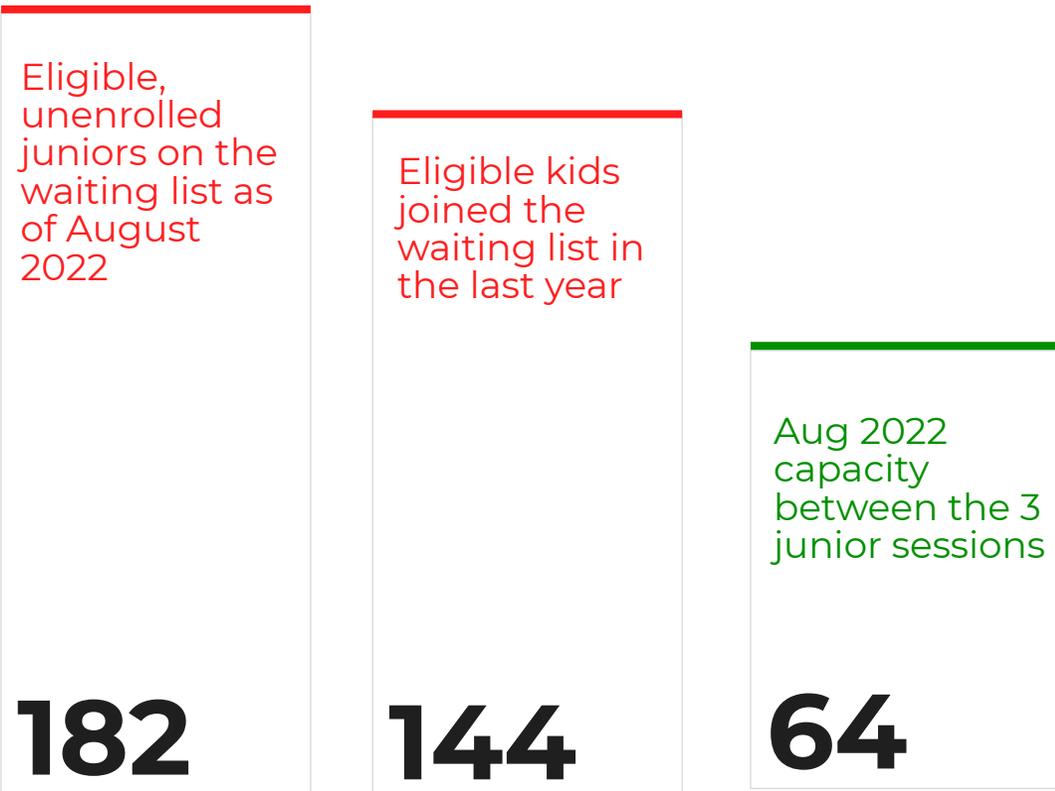
CLUB DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT. [cont]

JUNIOR SESSIONS IN NUMBERS

190%

GROWTH IN INTEREST IN JUNIOR SESSIONS IN THE LAST YEAR

Our waiting list went to 336, up from 177 kids when we reported this last year.





ANNEX 1

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.



BALANCE SHEET

Income & Expenditure				Balance Sheet			
Income		Expenditure		Liabilities		Assets	
Female Membership	-	EVA Club Registration	£ 95.00	Capital	£ 11,713.12	Assets	-
Male Membership	-		-	Surplus/Deficit for Year	£ 6,988.35		-
	-		-		-	Competition Sureties	£ 355.00
Men NVL Subs	£ 4,990.00	Men NVL Competition Entries	£ 334.00	Creditors	£ 3,852.54	Debtors	£ 363.86
	-	Men NVL Matches	£ 606.00	Income in Advance	£ 1,693.00	Prepays	£ 21.12
	-	Men NVL Referees	£ 322.75		-	Santander Bank	£ 23,507.03
	-	Men NVL Training	£ 2,858.00		-	Nat West Bank	-
	-		-		-	Stripe	-
Women NVL1 Subs	£ 3,847.00	Women NVL1 Matches	£ 816.00		-	Cash Float	-
	-	Women NVL1 Comp Entries	£ 382.00		-		-
	-	Women NVL1 Referees	£ 514.25		-		-
	-	Women NVL1 Training	£ 1,726.00		-		-
	-		-	Total	£ 24,247.01	Total	£ 24,247.01
Women NVL3 Subs	£ 3,398.00	Women NVL3 Matches	£ 425.00				
	-	Women NVL3 Comp Entries	£ 254.00				
	-	Women NVL3 Referees	£ 317.50				
	-	Women NVL3 Training	£ 1,726.00				
	-		-				
Bablake Subs	£ 4,037.00	Bablake Hire	£ 2,656.00				
	-		-				
Junior Income	£ 8,767.00	Junior Expenses	£ 5,768.00				
	-		-				
	-	Bank Charges	£ 340.27				
Sales of Club Kit	-	Equipment Purchases	£ 467.51				
Debt Write Backs	£ 524.30	Debt Write Offs	£ 75.00				
Amazon Commission	-		-				
Creditor Write Off	-	Committee Expenses	-				
	-	Website Expenses	£ 115.67				
Miscellaneous Income	£ 1,224.00	Miscellaneous Expenses	-				
Return to Play Grant Income	-	Return to Play Grant Expenses	-				
	-		-				
Deficit	-	Surplus	£ 6,988.35				
Total	£ 26,787.30	Total	£ 26,787.30				

RIGA VOLLEYBALL CLUB FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MAY 2022.

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AUDIT COMMENTS

1. Adjustments.

- a. Debtors consisted entirely of debts and credits belonging to Club Members. The value of money owed to Club Members exceeded that of money owed by Club Members. Therefore, an adjustment to show the true amount owed to the Club is necessary. The amount of this adjustment is £872.54 and affects both Creditor and Debtor balances.
- b. The final junior programme of the season crosses between the current financial year and the next. Therefore, a proportion of the revenue received needs to be shown as Income in Advance and reflected in the accounts of the year in which the activity takes place. On the basis that seven of the twelve sessions involved fall in the next financial year, seven twelfths of the income received is so shown. Similarly, the service fees associated with any payments via Stripe included in this revenue are shown as Prepaids and calculated on the same basis.
- c. Five other adjustments were found which represent less than 0.5% of the total number of transactions processed. The resulting corrections did not materially alter the Accounts as presented for audit.

RIGA VOLLEYBALL CLUB FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MAY 2022.

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AUDIT COMMENTS

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2. The number of people taking part in club organised activities has grown over the Financial Year and the Committee are to be congratulated on facilitating this new level of participation. A consequence of this growth is a substantial increase in the number of entries in the Accounts. This, coupled with an increase in the use of online banking, has resulted in an increase in the number of entries that are not allocated to specific named entities. This applies equally to monies received as it does to payments. Whilst no discrepancies were found between the Accounts and the Bank statements, this was achieved “in the round” in some cases rather than by specific individual transaction. Recommendation: The Treasurer re-establishes the previous high level of identification for each category of entry in the Accounts and the Committee support the Treasurer in this by ensuring that any and all information required to specify an entry is supplied to the Treasurer.
3. Due to the method by which Woocommerce creates the order numbers, there are gaps in the order sequence which raise doubts concerning the complete transmission of all orders to Stripe. Whilst verification between the Stripe system (and therefore the orders that have been transmitted between Woocommerce and Stripe) and the Accounts has been completed satisfactorily, there remains a question mark over whether there were any orders that should have created a charge which were not included for some reason. I understand that each session organiser is provided with a list of attendees to confirm correctness of the data. Recommendation: The Committee consider whether a formal verification of attendees is required of Session organisers to ensure that no attendee is without an order number in Woocommerce.

RIGA VOLLEYBALL CLUB FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MAY 2022.

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AUDIT COMMENTS

4. Creditors include an amount due to Coventry Sports Foundation relating to the financial year 2020/21. It is prudent to hold this balance for a period of six years. I understand the Committee concur this approach and will look to release this accrual at the end of the 2026/27 financial year.
5. No other errors or omissions were found and the accounts, post adjustment, can be treated as a true and fair view of the financial position of the Riga Volleyball Club for the Year Ended 31st May 2022 as prepared on an historic cost basis.

J Boughton
Auditor



Club of the Year
2019-20
Coventry and Warwick Riga
Volleyball Club