

## 2019/2020 Season – SADVA League Resolutions

### Introduction

With the suspension of the SADVA leagues back in March, we had left an option to eventually restart the leagues. This has looked increasingly unlikely as time has gone on, and the committee has now decided to cancel the remaining matches.

The ladies' league is already complete, but currently the men's league and the mixed league still have matches remaining, so the committee have had to make decisions on how to resolve the leagues.

Below is a summary of our decisions, followed by a more detailed outline.

### Summary

- *Ladies' League* – complete, with the following final standings (see <https://www.sadva-volleyball.org.uk/tables.php> for the final table)
  1. Southampton Ladies
  2. Team Solent University Ladies
  3. Roke Ladies
  4. New Forest Academy Girls
- *Men's League* – complete, where teams with matches remaining are awarded 2 points per unplayed match.

The usual rules on league position when teams are tied on points are suspended, and any such teams are tied in position (so Southampton Men and Winchester Eagles are tied in 3<sup>rd</sup> place)

This results in the following table

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Pos	Team	P	W	L	SF	SA	PF	PA	Additional League Points	Points
1	Roke Polonia	12	9	3	21	7	534	409	0	30
2	Team Solent University Men	10	7	3	16	9	435	401	4	27
3	Southampton Men	8	5	3	12	7	354	301	8	25
	Winchester Eagles	12	8	4	17	12	494	455	0	25
5	Academicals	10	4	6	10	13	363	414	4	18
6	South Hants	10	2	8	6	17	357	418	4	12
7	New Forest Academy Boys	10	1	9	2	19	289	428	4	7

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- *Mixed League* – cancelled.

## **MENS LEAGUE**

### **What are the decisions the committee needed to make?**

The remaining matches in the league could affect the final positions of every team from 2<sup>nd</sup> place down. The committee had to decide whether to cancel the league entirely or complete the league by applying some rational resolution.

### **Question 1: Should we keep delaying and attempt to play the remaining matches?**

The committee unanimously decided *not* to keep delaying, but to cancel the remaining matches and conclude this season. Reasons for this decision included:

- Following the process that Volleyball England have taken with the national leagues of accounting for unplayed matches and finalising the league tables.
- Allowing clubs to have a clear focus on next season.
- The longer teams are not training, the higher the risk of injury should we schedule the matches immediately after restrictions are lifted.

### **Question 2: If we do not delay, then should we nullify the season?**

The committee unanimously decided not to nullify the season. The season is well over half way through (with some teams having completed all of their matches), and with a league winner already established, we decided to conclude the season without playing the remaining matches. Again, this is in line with Volleyball England's approach to the national league.

### **Question 3: If we do not nullify the season, then how do we decide the remaining matches?**

The committee agree that if we are going to conclude the season, then it is unfair to just leave the table in an unadjusted state. The committee considered a number of methods for taking account of the remaining matches.

*Method 1 - The remaining matches are simulated as drawn matches, with the score 21-18, 18-21.*

The main problem with this is that our league scoring system is a league point per set, plus a league point for each win. This method is effectively denying teams points by not allowing them to win their remaining matches - anyone with matches remaining has been punished more than is thought fair.

***Method 2 - Teams with remaining matches gain 2 points for each remaining match (chosen method)***

This is the same method applied by Volleyball England to the national leagues and was felt to be the fairest approach. It was additionally felt that any teams that were tied on league points should be tied on position. Usually the positions can be distinguished by set difference, then sets won, then points difference, then points won, but with some of the matches not being played, teams have been denied the chance to affect these numbers.

## **MIXED LEAGUE**

### **What are the decisions the committee needed to make?**

Less than half of the league has been played so far, with some teams not having played any matches yet. The committee had to decide whether to cancel the league entirely or complete the league by applying some rational resolution.

### **Question 1: Should we keep delaying and attempt to play the remaining matches?**

The committee unanimously decided *not* to keep delaying, but to cancel the remaining matches. The same reasons as for the Men's league apply.

### **Question 2: If we do not delay, then should we nullify the season?**

The committee decided to nullify the season completely as it is not possible to judge any league positions on so few matches.