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21 Pilcher Street ,
BLINDIGO. 3550

26/2/80

Secretary,
Phillip Island District Amateur Volleyball Assoc.,
Phillip Island Recreation Centre,
Church Street,
Coves. 3922

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your letter of 24th January. Please accept my humble apologies for the delay in replying. Your letter did not arrive until early this month, and I have found it impossible to attend to everything I should have attended to with the organization of the 1980 Sports Expo in Melbourne for the last 9 days.

The V.A.V.A. has reached the stage where a full time Executive Officer is desperately needed, and plans are about to be made for this to happen towards the end of this year. Attention to worthy matters such as yours can then be dealt with in person with a prompt visit rather than by mail.

However, in direct reply to your letter, I present the following outline: Volleyball in Australia is governed by the Australian Volleyball Federation Inc., (A.V.F. for short), and is made up of elected office bearers and State representatives. This body controls Volleyball and liases with all overseas bodies and is affiliated with the International body, the F.I.V.B. The World of Volleyball is divided up into zones, and we are in the Asian zone, along with countries such as Japan, Korea, China, New Zealand, Indonesia, etc. Within this zone are regions, and we are in the Oceania region which takes in all of the Volleyball countries around the Pacific area. The AVF is responsible for National teams in all of the age groups, (Open, U20, U17 and U15) and also is responsible for passing on all new rules and interpretations. A full time National Executive Director is employed by the AVF, and therefore the sport is going to leap ahead from the National level. The N.E.D. resides at Mt Eliza, Victoria, and if you would like to have him as a guest speaker at any time, please let me know and I will try and organize it.

Each State has its own controlling body, and here in Victoria it is the V.A.V.A. We employ a full time State Director of Coaching, who coaches players, coaches and referees. He is available for no charge for periods up to a fortnight for all affiliated Associations. Most Associations have him for two lots of one week, and in addition to him coaching Association players, coaches and referees, he is usually let into the school system which supplies players to the Association. In this way, your

Association gains from the extra players coming into the competition already knowing a little about the game. The SDC has his own Volleyballs and net, along with promotional material which he gives out, so a school who accepts him can consider it a privilege. No charge is made to the school in this situation. The SDC is also used to coach players, etc. in schools which are not in an affiliated Associations immediate area, but they pay \$10.00 per hour for this service. The V.A.V.A. is also responsible for providing coaches courses through the V.A.V.A. coaches commission, and will eventually provide referee courses through the V.A.V.A. referees commission. This latter commission is in the formation stages at the moment. The V.A.V.A. is responsible for all State representative teams in all age groups, and co-ordinates and promotes the sport in what-ever way it can. The recent Expo I mentioned earlier is one of the ways we undertake promotion.

Beneath the V.A.V.A. are two Councils, the Greater Melbourne Volleyball Council and the Victorian Country Volleyball Council. Because of your location, Phillip Island would come under the auspices of the V.C.V.C. The V.C.V.C. is made up of two representatives of each Affiliated Country Association, and undertakes the co-ordination of all country tournaments and is responsible for running the annual country Championships in Open, U20 and U17 grades at present. In addition, the V.C.V.C. have commenced Interstate country challenge matches, the first having taken place late last year between Victorian country and South Australian country. As you would be aware, the V.C.V.C. commenced bulk buying of Volleyball equipment a couple of years ago in order to provide quality equipment at reasonable prices. This exercise became too large for such a group as it would have been necessary to register a business to market Volleyballs. The entire marketing of equipment was then handed over to a private individual who registered a business and sells to most affiliated bodies at extremely cheap prices. I have enclosed a current price list of these goods for your information. The business is currently run by my wife, but it is likely to be handed over to the V.A.V.A. when a full time person is appointed.

You can see therefore, that there is a natural progression for players who wish to compete at higher levels. Starting with your own local competition, players can form part of a local combined team to compete in regular country tournaments and the annual country championships. They can then progress to Interstate country representation, State representation and finally National representation if they have the ability and the desire. You may feel that you cannot see this within the near future from Phillip Island, but believe me, here in Bendigo just a few years ago, the locals felt the same way, but we have now had, and still have, many players who have been through this ladder, and finally represented Australia in overseas competition.

The next question in your minds is probably 'what does this cost'? To affiliate with the V.C.V.C., your Association pays \$25.00 per year to the V.C.V.C. Each player then has to pay a registration fee, which reduces according to age. The following is the current scale, which is likely to be reviewed for 1981:
Open - \$3.00 p.a., U20 - \$2.00 p.a., U17 - \$1.00 p.a., U15 - 50c p.a. All ages are calculated from the 1st Jan. each year. This is your total cost to be affiliated, which in our opinion is ridiculously cheap in comparison with other sports.

One thing I failed to mention, is that the V.A.V.A. have just this week given the go ahead to a special incentive insurance scheme called Volleypak. This scheme covers all general household type insurances, and special rates have been struck

which are better than any I have been able to find. The Insurance brokers are offering commission on all policies, and future renewals, which the V.A.V.A. is going to split between itself and the affiliated Association who sells the cover. the fund raising potential of this scheme is enormous, and a definite incentive is present for all volleyballers to make a special effort on this project.

Very broadly then, this covers the structure of Volleyball and the advantages your Association can get by affiliating. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to write to me or phone me on 054 434923 (H), or 054 431877 (W). If you wish to affiliate, then you should address a simple letter of application, setting out the names and addresses of your Executive, the name of the Association and the broad details of your competition (No. of teams, grades, venue used, playing nights, etc) to the Secretary, V.C.V.C., P.O. Box 935, MORWELL. 3840, with a copy to myself. The V.C.V.C. will then formally accept you at its next meeting (this is constitutional procedure only) and you will be forwarded the necessary forms for the registration of your players. You will be billed after your registrations have been returned and processed by the V.C.V.C. computerized registration system. In subsequent years, your registrations will be payable in two sums. Half of the previous years registration fees in May/June, and the balance of your fees in Oct/Nov. The registrations are updated annually, so there is no continuing hassle of keeping your records absolutely accurate. I am the V.C.V.C. Records Secretary/Treasurer, so if you join us, you will hear from me in another capacity.

The Hamilton Association is joining us this year, and I have taken the liberty of enclosing the Affiliated Association Executive list for all country Associations. I am sure you will gain from affiliation, and look forward to your application. Once again, if there is anything further you would like to know, please don't hesitate to contact me. Sorry I have taken so long to reply, I am not usually this slow.

Yours in Volleyball,



Murray Mansfield

Secretary

PS: Sorry I cannot follow your Surname on the letter, hence the letter is not addressed to you personally.