

Establishment of Regional Handball Associations

England Handball is exploring the potential of establishing Regional Handball Associations to help support the future development and delivery of some areas of the sport. This document provides further information to enable more focused discussions to take place with interested parties.

What could Regional Handball Associations do?

- They could help to provide a regular and more effective link between clubs and England Handball.
- They could act as a conduit for the two-way flow of information between England Handball and the clubs.
- They could have the potential to pick up regional activities on behalf of England Handball as they are closer to the frontline of delivery.
- They could seek to access local/regional funding that could support delivery of activities in their respective regions.
- They could provide opportunities for succession planning to England Handball Board positions.
- They could offer volunteering opportunities including internships they might provide additional resource for the regional association.
- They could be responsible for the organisation of the Regional League level of the England Handball competition pyramid.
- They could support the organisation of regional coaching, leadership and officiating courses.
- They could organise regional continuing professional development sessions for the handball workforce.
- They could take ownership of the Regional Academy tier of the England Talent Pathway.

How many RHA's would there be?

- The proposal is to establish 8 RHA's – see overleaf for more details on the geography involved.
- The RHA's could be set up in a phased approach depending on the interest from people within each region to support their development.
- Each RHA would have an allocated key contact within England Handball with whom they could liaise.

What else needs to be considered?

- England Handball has a template constitution that could be used to establish each RHA.
- Consideration needs to be given to how officials are elected to serve in the key positions within the RHA – Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.
- Possibility of a slight increase in the annual registration fee for clubs (no more than £25) that could then be paid to the respective RHA to help support with any costs incurred in running the regional activities.



Regional Handball Associations – Geography



The eight proposed regional associations would be as follows (merging North East and Yorkshire & the Humber from the map above):

1. North West – comprising Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire.
2. North East & Yorkshire – comprising Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire and East Riding of Yorkshire.
3. West Midlands – comprising Staffordshire, Shropshire, Birmingham, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.
4. East Midlands – comprising Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.
5. East – comprising Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Hertfordshire and Essex.
6. South West – comprising Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Bristol, Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall.
7. South East – comprising Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Surrey, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent.
8. London – comprising Greater London.