



What a season it was!

Top English volleyball trophies won, participation and two wins in European Volleyball Cup and a current volleyball World Champion on court - these are the highlights of the most successful season ever for IBB Polonia London Volleyball Club.

It all started with the new Head Coach - Piotr Graban - who took over the team at the beginning of the season and was always open about his goals: "My

plan is to move the whole English volleyball forward. I am young, ambitious and full of belief that our sport has a great potential in the UK. The players, supporters and management at IBB Polonia are really committed to our sport and I think the time is right to show the world that English volleyball exists" - said Graban, who will lead IBB Polonia for the upcoming 2017/18 season as well.

The regular season seen IBB Polonia fighting for three trophies - Londoners as the first club in English Volleyball history applied to play in European Challenge Cup in addition to the domestic League and Cup. After traveling to Poland, Hungary and Holland IBB Polonia ended their European adventure by beat-

ing Draisma Appeldoorn 3:2 in front of a full house at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

"It was amazing to see how hungry the people of London are for top quality volleyball events. In less than three weeks we managed to sell out the Crystal Palace hall on Wednesday night! We didn't manage to progress to the quarter final of the CUP, but to finish ninth and to win two matches is much more than many considered possible. The plan is to increase the number of international volleyball matches in London - clearly if done right - they are a very attractive proposition for the otherwise spoiled for entertainment choice Londoners" - said the Chairman of IBB Polonia - Bartek Luszcz



On the home turf it was Sheffield Volleyball Club that caused IBB Polonia the most problems as the two met in both finals - English Championship and English Cup. But before the semi final of the League came the news - the current volleyball World Champion - Krzysztof Ignaczak - will join IBB Polonia London. It was a carefully planned marketing stunt that work wonders for IBB Polonia and ensured that loyal fans got more than they expected. What is more the relationship didn't end at the end of the season, as both parties plan to continue the cooperation:

"I would like this to develop into a long-term relationship. I like the openness with which President

Luszcz has been thinking and how he has been seeking a solution to improve the British perspective towards volleyball. The development of the sport is a very interesting project which I would like to add to my list of tasks. Our sport has a massive potential in the UK and we want to open the eyes of the population. I will eagerly share my knowledge, my experience, my ideas, and not only on court" said Ignaczak.

"I would like to thank all the fans, players and sponsors - especially IBB Builders Merchants - for the trust and support that we felt throughout the whole season - it really helped! We are at the very

beginning of the road to develop English Volleyball into a top quality sport, but the rapid growth we experienced in the past two seasons show that our dream is possible. The main aims for the upcoming season is to compete internationally and to improve the quality of our events. So the fans can look forward to more sold out events in London" - said the Chairman of IBB Polonia VC - Bartek Luszcz

IBB Polonia London will resume trainings in mid August with the first match of the season scheduled for the 7th October.