



Annual Report 2019 - 2020



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Chairman – Matt Clifford

This season has been a different one for all of us but started like most others. The Regional Management Board (RMB) had been working hard to further our understanding of the game within the region, supporting those who wish to volunteer more and look to ways which we can enhance our offering to our members. I'd like to thank the RMB members for their time and support this year.

This year has not been without its challenges; the implementation of ENgage to collect memberships was not without its teething problems but the support from our Regional Coordinator Lucy Farrell was invaluable at ensuring the impact was minimised. I would like to thank Lucy for this support and the rest of the support she has provided the region this season.

This time last year we were celebrating the game as the Vitality Netball World Cup took place in Liverpool. 7 of our technical officials (Julie Arnold, Toni Brunsdon, Jo Coker, Jan Johnson, Kim Simmons, Tracy Stubbs and Mary Stanley) were appointed to the tournament with 5 of our officials taking part in the bronze medal or final matches. A huge congratulations to them all.



We have recently welcomed Amy Stewart as our new South & South West Partnership Manager. We welcome Amy to the region at an important time and extend our thanks to Samantha Kennerson, who remains with England Netball but has moved to support the East and London & South East Regions as their Partnership Manager.

Our volunteers within the region sitting on the Technical Support Groups have continued to ensure that where possible we have had a voice nationally and ensured that we continue to support our athletes and officials. Our OTSG have again worked tirelessly to ensure that our matches can be played working with umpires and we have seen several successes this year of umpires gaining new umpiring awards as well as our table officials working with many different Franchises to support their matches.

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on not only our game but the country as a whole and we extend our sympathies to those who have been affected by the pandemic and our thanks for those who have tackled it and helped keep the country open. In the next few days we should be hearing more from England Netball about the return to play. I must stress it is important that we all follow the guidance produced by England Netball so that we can all return to play as quickly and safely as possible.

Our CTSG as usual have worked tirelessly this season to ensure the clubs in the region have the best competition in the country. They also ensure the success of our regional National Schools round and

congratulations to all the teams who made the national finals and to Worthing College who were crowned Under 19 National Champions. During COVID-19 the CTSG have been meeting regularly to discuss the how our competitions can restart and the best structure for all – a difficult task with the constantly changing circumstances. Teams in the region eligible for the 2020/21 regional competition will have been contacted about the planned format. I would like to extend my thanks to all the CTSG for the continued work they have been putting in and will continue to put in to ensure a safe and competitive competition.

In addition, I would like to thank the County Boards and their Chairs for their continued support.

Looking forward there continues to be a great deal of change for the sport and the region coming out of COVID-19 restrictions. The Board is conscious that it needs to continue to work hard to ensure that we support all our membership, develop our athletes and help where we can to ensure that pathways are clear and open to all.

It has been an ambition of mine to develop how we communicate with you all and seek your opinions and views – this is something I hope the new chair will take forward.

This year has been challenging, at times frustrating but also rewarding. I hope that I leave the region in a place that the new chair can take the South forward into the new netballing landscape, however that may look. I am standing down for personal reasons but will remain as part of the RMB as a general member supporting the new chair as they take on the role and moving the region forward.

I'd like to thank Scott Connors for taking on the treasurer role this year and for remaining in post while the RMB seeks to appoint a new treasurer in the coming months before he stands down, also remaining on the RMB as a general member.

I hope you remain safe and wish you well for the future.

Matt Clifford, Chair Netball South

Competition – Jan Johnson

Once again the season started with Entry Tournament. This year we had a record number of 90+ teams applying to enter the U13/14/16/19 Regional leagues. This meant a two day tournament playing two age groups on each day. This was a 10% increase on last years' entries and a bigger response from around the region showing a huge demand for regional level netball in the South. We created 2 divisions of 8 for each age group. Unsuccessful teams were encouraged to play in County of friendly leagues.

Unfortunately the season was curtailed a little earlier than we would have liked and final tables were completed using average points per game as recommended by England Netball. Fortunately no league positions were majorly affected by this process. Full league results for 2019/20 can be found on www.netballsouth.co.uk but congratulations must go to all of our league winners in the respective leagues. We must also commiserate with all teams that were due to go on to represent the region in National finals at premier league playoffs and club level.

U14 National Club Finalists

Eagles

Team Matrix

U16 National Club Finalists

Weston Park Blades

Woodley

U14 National Schools Finalists

Hurst

Farnborough Hill

U16 National Schools Finalists

Newlands

Brighton College

U19 National Schools Finalists

Hurst

Worthing College

Another very successful year for all in Netball South.

The 2020/21 season could be very different from any other season we have known. Although planning has started we do not currently know when netball as we are used to will be back. We have had to make some very difficult decisions with regard to regional leagues next season and are still working very hard to get further detailed information out to all teams. We will have many new provisos to put in place to enable netball to be played and will need the continuing support from you all. We are currently reviewing the regulations these will be finalised before the start of the season and published on the Netball South website.

All teams from U19 and below are required to be CAPS accredited from next season but due to the current situation the CAPS process was suspended and therefore we will review the criteria for the coming season only. CAPS now applies to all clubs, not just those with juniors, therefore from 2021/22 we will be requiring all regional teams to have CAPS accreditation.

I would like to thank all members of the CTSG for their commitment to South Region. The extra work for the CTSG as a result of the COVID-19 situation is unprecedented and they have all worked tirelessly to

support me and Netball South in these difficult times. Sarah Kucera has stood down and we thank her for her commitment to Netball South and the CTSG. You will be missed.

I would also like to thank all clubs for their help in creating a positive approach to competition in Netball South going forward and look forward to working with you all in the coming season.

Jan Johnson (Chair and on behalf of CTSG)

Well, what a strange season 2019/2020 has turned out to be, with matches cancelled, league positions determined by average points score, umpires not being able to fulfil their assessments and technical officials being denied opportunities to enhance their experiences. It certainly will be a season to remember, but not necessarily for the right reasons.

National Appointments

National events were somewhat curtailed unfortunately due to the Coronavirus outbreak, with only the National Schools being staged, where Emma Walker, Lisa Vallely, Rebecca Moher, Rachel Tanner, Dickon Adams and Nikki Dewick were all invited to officiate, with 3 of the umpires being appointed to semi finals/finals.

The Vitality Superleague only completed a minimal number of matches but the Region had 3 umpires appointed to the squad, Chris Obin, Julie Wilks and Megan Samuel (making her debut).

At the Netball World Cup in Liverpool last July, all 7 Technical Officials from the South were involved in the Semi Final matches with Jo Coker, Kim Simmons, Tracy Stubbs and Julie Arnold being appointed to the Final.

In January 2020, various Technical Officials were also appointed to the 2 Day International Nations Cup held at the Copper Box.

Courses

Before the Virus lockdown the Region did see a number of Courses being run that ranged from Into Officiating through to B Award. Those courses that had to be cancelled will hopefully be rearranged when we are back up and running.

13 Umpires sat the A/B Written Paper in November 2019 of which 10 attained an appropriate pass.
3 Umpires sat the A/B Written Paper in February 2020 of which 2 attained an appropriate pass.

The May 2020 paper was postponed and it is hoped that candidates will be able to sit it in October this year.

Umpire Achievements

Dickon Adams was reaccredited as an A Award Umpire

Rebecca Moher attained her Umpire A Award

Sharon Moher, Jill Allington and Shannon Holmes attained their Umpire B Award

There were numerous Umpires who attained their C Award.

For those umpires who were successful in passing their Pre B Assessments, the opportunity will be given to them to take their Assessments when the new season commences.

Open League

The Region has a good number of umpires who officiate the Open League and Junior Leagues. Generally matches were covered successfully, and it was the weather that forced a number of postponements rather than non-availability of umpires.

Regional Schools - U14, U16, U19 - January 2020 - Farnborough

The tournament was well supported by umpires, with only one forced to withdraw the night before!! I am always extremely grateful to all umpires and court mentors who support this event.

The following umpires were appointed to the final rounds:

U14

Semi Finals - Nigel Gill, Ruth Claridge, Dickon Adams, Tammy Turner

¾ Play Off - Carole Brown & Katie Palmer

Final - Sue Lyons & Emma Walker

U16

Semi Finals - Beth Warren, Emma Walker, Lolly Barnes, Rebecca Moher

¾ Play Off - Sharon Moher & Sam Skinner

Final - Beth Warren & Clare Kitchen

U19

Semi Finals - Shannon Holmes, Clare Kitchen, Helen Turon, Becci Dick

¾ Play Off - Hannah Walker, Sara Beswick

Final - Helen Turton & Rebecca Moher

New Rules Roll Out Programme

At a meeting I held with the County Umpiring Secretaries in January it was agreed that they would be responsible for the roll out of the new rule changes, due to be effective from 1 September 2020. England Netball are currently working on a video presentation to assist with this, but have been delayed with its production due to them concentrating on the Return to Court Plan.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the OTSG - Jenny Poore, Julie Wilks, Tracy Stubbs and Sarah Clifford for their support. We have had regular meetings, more recently via Zoom and continue to work alongside the Competitions Group to provide support for Netball in the South Region.

Here's hoping that we do see a 2020/21 Season in the not too distant future!!

Julie Arnold

On behalf of the OTSG

Jenny Poore

Julie Wilks

Tracy Stubbs

Sarah Clifford

This has been my first year as treasurer for Netball South and as a member of the Regional Management Board (RMB). Due to several factors including the large numbers of changes in personnel on the RMB there were delays in transferring of access to the bank accounts which did cause issues in the speed of payments until Christmas.

With regards to the Regions finances, the RMB now has more information on where the regions finances are being both spent and generated. We were also pleased as a region to be able to support members of the region volunteering as technical officials at the Netball World cup and for the first time, assist all teams traveling to Guernsey for regional matches.

With regards to the finances position of the region, despite running a deficit over the past year (See finance report), the region continues to hold substantial reserves. It is recommended that as the RMB moves forward with generating a strategic plan to invest much of this reserve in the region. Investments could potentially take the form of grants for improvement to facilities that will benefit all who play Netball. This will not be an easy task due to the shape of the region, however, it is not wise for the region to be hold such large reserves.

The treasurer role within Netball staff as stands is part general cashier and part strategic planner / policy maker. Due to the number of payments that are required to be made, the treasurer role is a lot of work for someone to take on as a volunteer. It is recommended that the next RMB look to split the role and look to pay a professional to manage the current account on a daily basis. Having support on running the day to day will free up the treasurer to work on the more strategic aspects of the role.

If there are members of the region with the right skills who would like to be involved in shaping the financial policies and procedures of the region please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to meeting more of you at games around the regions over the coming year.

Scott

netballsouth_treasurer@outlook.com

Annual financial report May 1st 2019 to April 30th 2020

This year's financial report gives details of all income and expenditure and income for the past year. To assist the reader, definitions for each of the income and expenditure streams have been given below at the bottom of this document.

Opening and Closing balances

| | Opening balance | Closing Balance |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Current | | |
| Account | £57,266.33 | £51,154.60 |
| Savings Account | £107,427.53 | 108,075.08 |
| Total | £164,693.86 | £159,229.68 |

Breakdown of Expenditure and Income

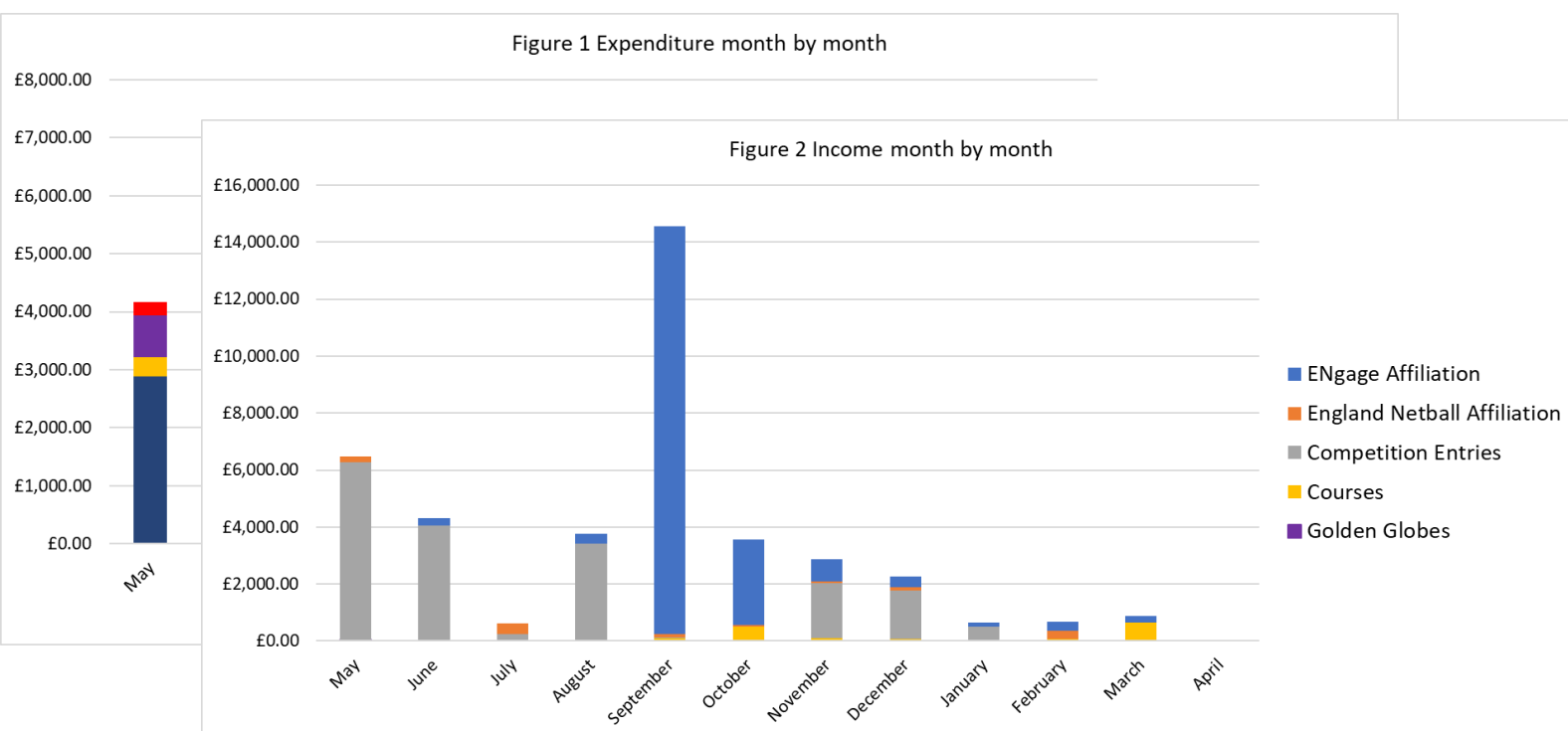
| Expenditure | | Income | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|
| Management Committee | £3,915.60 | ENgage Affiliation | £19,768.73 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| OTSG | £1,697.06 | England Netball Affiliation | £1,164.00 |
| CTSG | £5,000.39 | Competition Entries | £18,141.92 |
| Bursaries | £9,399.60 | Courses | £1,495.00 |
| Match Officials | £21,159.18 | Golden Globes | £25.00 |
| Golden Globes | £3,018.56 | Interest on Savings | £647.55 |
| Covid-19 Refunds | £700.00 | | |
| Other | £960.60 | | |
| Overpayments | £855.39 | | |
| Total Expenditure = | £46,706.38 | Total Income = | £41,242.20 |

Balance for 2019 – 2020 season = -£5,464.18

Expenditure and Income by Month

Figures 1 and 2 below give a month by month break down of expenditure (Figure 1) and Income (Figure 2). It should be noted that expenditure is shown in the month that payment was made and not the month in which it was accrued.



Independent Audit

The region is currently undertaking an independent audit of its finances and processes. The results of the audit will be presented to the board at a future meeting and made available to all members through the region's website.

Summary

Over the past season Netball south has run at a deficit of £5,464.18. This is predominantly due to the number of bursaries given by the region to support teams and individuals from our region. It should be recognised that the deficit would likely have been greater, due to match official costs, if the Netball season had run to the normal timetable without the Covid-19 suspension of sports. There were also overpayments

to match officials of £855.39 which occurred during the period where the bank accounts were transferred from the previous treasurer. Unfortunately, the overpayments were not identified until after Netball had to be stopped due to Covid-19. It is planned for this money to be recouped, over the 2020 – 2021 season as match officials are once again allowed to travel for the return of Netball.

The region continues to remain in a very strong financial position and maintains strong reserves in excess of 3 years total expenditure.

Definitions

| Expenditure | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Management Committee | Cost of regional management meetings, general expenses, travel expenses and Chairperson expenses for attendance of England Netball meetings |
| OTSG | Expenses associated with managing the OTSG, includes meetings and travel expenses |
| CTSG | Costs and expenses with managing the regional competitions, includes meetings, travel expenses, venues and prizes. |
| Bursaries | Expenditure associated with bursaries awarded by the regional management committee |
| Match Officials | Travel expenses for umpires officiating at regional competitions |
| Golden Globes | Expenditure associated with the 2019 regional Golden Globes |
| Covid-19 Refunds | Refunds due to cancelled courses |
| Other | Other payments not associated with other categories, including cost of website costs, England netball costs of B award umpire assessments. |
| Overpayment | Expenditure due to Administration error resulting in overpayments to match officials |
| Income | |
| ENgage Affiliation | Income from regional affiliation paid though ENgage |
| England Netball Affiliation | Income from regional affiliation paid though England Netball |
| Competition Entries | Income received from competition entries |
| Courses | Income from the running of courses e.g B award umpire courses |
| Golden Globes | Income from golden globe ticket sales |

Introduction

This report produced by the Regional Coordinator (Lucy Farrell) and Partnership Manager (Amy Stewart) includes:

- 1) National Updates
- 2) Regional Participation
- 3) Regional Club Development & Membership
- 4) Regional Education & Training
- 5) Partnerships Update & Other News
- 6) The year ahead and priorities for 2020/21
- 7) Forward Plans & Dates
- 8) Staff updates

1) National Updates – Supplied by Partnership Manager, Amy Stewart

This year has seen a land mark year in the history of England Netball. We have seen huge highs with the introduction of the ENGage membership system; the introduction of a form of our beloved game for U9's (Bee Netball) and the hosting and delivery of the most successful Netball World Cup in History! It has also seen unprecedented challenges with the Netball season being cut short by the onset of the Global pandemic that is still very much affecting us today but which has also brought us a Netball family even closer together.

Some of the 2019/20 highlights are documented below.

Bee Netball:

England Netball was delighted to announce the launch of the new Bee Netball programme designed exclusively for U11s in June 2019. Bee Netball, which enables children to participate in netball, make friends and develop other key skills, such as friendship, inclusion, fair play and playing together, has been designed to combat the current research conducted by the Youth Sport Trust that shows that a whopping 89% of girls do not meet the required level of physical activity

To mark the launch of this prestigious new programme, England Netball on the 27 June 2019 hosted a pop-up court at Liverpool One, so that children from local primary schools could test out Bee Netball for themselves and meet members of the Vitality Roses; England's senior netball team. The programme was later introduced throughout schools, netball clubs and local communities across the country and helped promote self-development, provide stage age-appropriate netball, and inspire children to become part of the netball family.

Netball World Cup:

From 12 – 21 July 2019 England Netball worked in partnership to host the Netball World Cup in Liverpool. Around 112,196 tickets were purchased for the tournament, which was held for the first time in England since 1995, by fans wanting to see the world's best netballers compete for the sport's most prestigious trophy. As a Netball family we all contributed to making the Netball World Cup a huge success, including the following highlights:

- The tournament has the best known Net Promoter Score recorded for any major sporting event in the UK
- 6.07 million attended, watched and/ or followed the Vitality Netball World Cup 2019
- Over £8m economic impact
- 44,000 visitors to the fan park in Liverpool

- 4.82 million agreed that the Vitality Netball World Cup 2019 raised the profile of all women’s sport in the UK
- 160,000 people inspired to start playing netball or play more netball

A huge thank you and congratulations to all those involved in making the event such a huge success.

England Netball CEO:

This year saw the appointment of a new CEO of England Netball with Fran Connolly being recruited to lead the organisation from 30th October 2019. England Netball was delighted to announce that Fran Connolly, previous England Netball Director of Development had been appointed as new Chief Executive Officer to lead England Netball into an exciting new era.

Under Fran’s leadership England Netball began the development of its new 10 Year Adventure strategy that would align to Sport England’s new strategy and funding cycle from April 2021. The current global pandemic situation has delayed this somewhat with England Netball taking the decision to delay the launch of its new strategy in line with Sport England’s postponed strategy release until early 2021. You will see from the priorities for this coming year (2020/21) that the development of the new England Netball strategy will remain a focus for the organisation under Fran’s leadership.

ENgage:

ENgage (new membership system) is now live and was launched to all members for the 2019/20 Netball season. This system gives individuals access to edit their details and complete simple administration for any organisations they have a role for. We are now entering into further phases where future functionality of the ENgage system are being launched including website development; membership renewal and competition functions.

2) Regional Participation

Regional Participation (Report Run 1/4/18- present)

During the 2019/20 financial year the regional team has run the following programmes. The table **below** shows the total number of programmes run, participants engaged this financial year, which of those participants were new to netball (had not played the previous 12 months prior to joining) against the target for the financial year.

Figure 1: Programmes & Participants

| Programme | Number of Programmes Delivered | Number of Participants | Number new to netball (if applicable) | New to netball target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Back to Netball | 118 | 1155 | 985 | 1120 |
| Netball Now | 25 | 474 | 163 | 205 |
| Walking Netball | 141 | 770 | 656 | 370 |
| University Netball Officers | 13 | 780 | 294 | 250 |
| School Games | 4 | 489 (54 teams) | | |
| Netball Youth Camps | 11 | 125 | 0 | - |
| Total programmes vs target | 349 (1662%) | 4432 (717%) | 2381 (90%) | - |

3) Regional Club Development & Membership

This section shows club activity during the current financial year and membership statistics for the current season by county and for the region with a comparison to last season.

Figure 4: New clubs formed & CAPS accreditation

| | Number Formed |
|-------------|---------------|
| Bronze CAPS | 3 |
| Silver CAPS | 7 |
| Gold CAPS | 0 |

Figure 5: Memberships by type for the current season compared to the previous affiliation year.

| Organisation | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Total Clubs | 442 | 588 |
| Total Schools | 694 | 663 |
| Total Leagues | n/a | 20 |
| Total Participants O18 | 7982 | 7571 |
| Total Participants U18 | 1915 | 2047 |
| Total Participants U14 | 3150 | 3100 |
| Total Participants U11 | 3001 | 2784 |

4) Regional Education & Training

The following table shows the qualifications and courses run to date this financial year.

Figure 7: Education & training courses run or planned

| Qualification/Course | Number Run In Region |
|----------------------|--|
| UKCC Level 1 | 4 (plus 1 postponed due to covid19) |
| UKCC Level 2 | 2 (plus 2 cancelled due to low uptake) |
| CPD Workshops | 5 run, 2 cancelled due to low uptake |

5) Partnerships Update & Other News

The region continues to forge strong relationships with the two VNSL franchise clubs that partner with the region – Surrey Storm and Wasps. Work continues on the development and integration of their community engagement plan and we will look to establish meetings with development personnel once franchises are contactable. We are aware that some of our South counties are covered by other franchises

and if specific updates are required for them then please contact us and we will speak with the relevant partnership manager to get these to you.

Women's Institute (WI) – the partnership with the WI continues to flourish with Walking Netball having a strong presence in all of our Southern Counties

Sport England Funding continues in line with the current funding agreement until March 2021. Due to the current Global pandemic delaying the progress of both the new Sport England strategy and the England Netball strategy the submission of the new 4 year funding agreement (2021- 2025) has been impacted and more detail of the timescales for any new funding submission will be provided in due course.

6) The year ahead – priorities for 2020/21

As we are all fully versed the continued impact of COVID-19 has and continues to make the year ahead very difficult and poses significant challenges in forward planning and date setting. Instead for this year's report it possibly more appropriate to set out the key priorities for England Netball over the coming year.

COVID- 19 Response and Recovery

- A slightly different look to usual!
- Getting back and staying on track (target setting will follow)
- Returning to Play – most importantly supporting our members, clubs and leagues to ensure Netball will #RiseAgain
- Connecting with and supporting our loyal participants
- ...while remaining market leaders in attracting new women and girls to our great game

Virtual Technology

- Exploring and expanding of virtual platforms (e.g. Virtual Netball Club and Education & Training)

Programmes

- Embed Bee Netball (a programme you will see a lot of)
- Transform customer experience of our most successful existing programmes (B2N; WN) subtle but make a big difference

Strategy

- Writing, consulting and evolving the new 10 Year Adventure Strategy

We very much hope that later in the year we will be back to running a full programme of courses and workshops including UKCC Level1 and Level 2; Walking Netball hosts training courses and Bee Netball workshops however at this time with the suspension of all courses it is not possible to identify specific dates and venues. Information on such courses will be shared on our website when available.

7) Forward Plans & Dates

Future course planning has of course come to a halt along with the covid-19 pandemic. As yet, we have no fixed date for when we expect courses to resume. However, the regional coordinators are in the process of

reaching out to venues in order to restart these future plans. Any updates about the resumption of courses and/or netball activity will continue to be updated onto the England netball website.

8) Staff updates

- The new Sussex NDO was recruited and we welcome Hannah Sturdy to his new role.
- Ali Hathaway is currently on maternity leave
- The new Bucks NDCC, Paige Skillicorn was recruited and started her role.
- Vicky Coyle has started her role as the new Bucks NDO.
- We welcome the South and South West partnership manager, Amy Stewart who has been appointed and commenced her role.
- Rose Johnston started with us on 1st April as NDCC Hampshire with a slight change to the locations she shall focus on moving to the northern part of Hampshire covering Winchester and above.

Regional Staff contacts

Partnership Manager:

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| Amy Stewart | Partnership Manager South & South West | 07872400739 | Amy.Stewart@englandnetball.co.uk |
|-------------|--|-------------|--|

Regional Coordinator:

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Lucy Farrell | Regional Coordinator | 01628 478985 07540127404 | South@englandnetball.co.uk Lucy.Farrell@englandnetball.co.uk |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|

Netball Development Officers:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| Vicki Coyle* | Buckinghamshire | 07872407092 | Victoria.Coyle@englandnetball.co.uk |
| Alison Hathaway* | Oxfordshire | 07872407212 | Alison.Hathaway@englandnetball.co.uk |
| Debbie Spindlow* | Berkshire & Team Leader | 07587034322 | Debbie.Spindlow@englandnetball.co.uk |
| Carey McCormick* | Hampshire | 07595086751 | Carey.McCormick@englandnetball.co.uk |
| Hannah Sturdy | Sussex | 07540126600 | Hannah.Sturdy@englandnetball.co.uk |

Netball Development Community Coaches:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--|
| Paige Skillicorn* | Buckinghamshire & Berkshire | 07964124783 | Paige.Skillicorn@englandnetball.co.uk |
| Rose Johnston | South Hampshire | 07854090473 | Rose.Johnston@englandnetball.co.uk |

*some staff working hours have been affected and/or cover is in place due to furlough

Regional Office address:

England Netball, Netball South, Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre, Bisham, near Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 1RR

01628 478985

<http://www.netballsouth.co.uk/>

County Reports - Berkshire

We have had another busy year in Berkshire and the Board has worked hard to promote and support opportunities for members within the county.

- Continued to run our very successful indoor Junior league for U11, U12, U13, U14 and U16 teams at various venues across the county, providing competition for non-regional players. The majority of fixtures were completed before lockdown but final placings were calculated using average points per game.
- Provided financial support to coaches to help them to gain their qualifications
- Provided financial support to umpires to achieve their awards
- Provided financial support to tutors/testers
- Provided financial support to Woodley Netball Club for their World Record Attempt for the World's Largest Netball Lesson
- Provided bursaries to local leagues
- Ran a successful Satellite and County Academy programme for talented youngsters within the County. The Satellite programme was completed before lockdown but unfortunately the County Academy programme was cut short with 5 sessions to go.
- Hosted Play Days for Athletes from our Satellite and County Academies to Play Days against squads from Surrey's performance programme
- Supported Academy coaches with their Continuing Professional Development through contributions towards their coaching courses
- Organised and ran various officiating courses
- Provided support at the Berkshire School Games finals
- Organised and ran the County round of the National Schools competition and provided financial support to schools that qualified for the Regional Finals.
- Members of the BNMB sit on the Regional Management Board
- Berkshire's Performance Lead sits on the Talent Management Group at Surrey Storm
- Been supported by our brilliant Netball Development Officer, Debbie Spindlow, who has provided us with advice and guidance throughout the year. Her enthusiasm for the game is infectious and her energy is inspiring. She has worked hard during lockdown to ensure clubs and leagues are kept up to date with the latest England Netball guidance and provided clarification to help support the netball family.
- Many clubs from within Berkshire have participated in the Junior Regional Leagues, with Eagles U14s and Woodley U16s qualifying for the National Club Finals which sadly have been cancelled due to restrictions in place due to COVID-19. Eagles and Bs also finished 1st and 2nd respectively in the U13 Division 1 league.
- Many Berkshire clubs have also participated in the U19 and Open regional leagues with the most notable success being Eagles qualifying once again to go to National Premier League Play-offs which have sadly been cancelled.

- Berkshire-based athletes are very well represented within the franchises at various levels, particularly at Surrey Storm, Mavericks and Wasps as well as within the England Roses, Futures and England Academies
- Berkshire officials have also been heavily involved with the regional league as well as assisting at Superleague and England matches.

The success of netball within our County is due to the many players, coaches, umpires, league administrators, team managers, club managers, scorers and other volunteers who give up so much of their time to ensure there are plenty of opportunities for our members to participate in netball in whatever capacity they choose to. It is also due to the hard work of the board members who have also worked tirelessly throughout the year to promote netball within the county and provide opportunities for our members. Thank you all.

What a first year – I really don't think that I could have expected what would be thrown at us from the beginning of 2020. Firstly we had 2 different storms that affected the ability to play matches and then we have our current position of Covid 19 and the affects that this has had on our season. I would like to record that our thoughts are with all our netball family who may have been affected by this terrible disease. What have we been doing this year – we have concentrated on consolidating our leagues and looking at how we can improve and develop these – adult and junior. We had hoped to have a forum this year for the junior leagues prior to the entry date but again this has had to be cancelled and a survey has been carried out instead.

We have reviewed our Constitution and have had this approved at our AGM – this is taking the constitution that has been put forward by England Netball.

2020 we were due to hold our bi annual awards ceremony but I am sorry to advise that this has had to be delayed until next year. I know that there were very few nominations put forward from the Hampshire County for the National Golden Globes and this is something that I would like to see us improve on in the coming year

County Plan: The county plan is under review and will be completed in line with the South Plan.

Membership remains consistent but as you would expect at the current time there are many questions about what this will look like for next season. For Hampshire we have agreed to have no affiliation fee this year to support the netball family.

Competition: HNA continue to have successful Senior and Junior Leagues running with no problems other than the obvious. We have worked with HSC and all school competitions were supported with personnel and officials. As a result of the recent issues we have followed EN advice on concluding our leagues.

Officiating: We have again held numerous courses despite having to cancel our last groups, 2 Into Officiating Courses and 3 C courses for Hampshire. We would normally have completed a further 3 courses from April to June but these have not happened this year. We had a total of just under 80 people attend these courses however the number of people going on to complete the assessments is still very low.

We had total of 25 new C award umpires between April 2019 and April 2020 with a success rate of 96%.

The spread of umpires from different leagues continues to grow but this year we have seen all leagues develop more umpires to take this assessment

We have a total of 9 assessors within the county.

We continue to look to our C award umpires to encourage those interested to move on through to their B award. The Region was due to hold a B award course in March of which a number of umpires from Hampshire were due to attend but this was also cancelled. Congratulations go to Sharon Moher on gaining her B award this year and Rebecca Moher for gaining her A award.

Academies: Academies have been co-ordinated by Fran Richards and a team of Coaches. This season the age groups for Academies has changed to 2 levels U15 and 1 U13 with many of our athletes being selected into franchises.

BTN and NN Back to Netball and Netball Now continue to be run by the NDCC and NDO Hampshire

Finance: HNA continues to support the development of the Academies. All local leagues were offered courses for first aid and PCYP courses. Bursaries continue to be awarded in support of members undertaking courses

Carol Williams

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For a small County we have had a busy season. The IWN committee have all contributed fully to running many events, and offering a variety of Netball around the Island. I thank them all for their hard work and support. Sadly two members are standing down this season who must be congratulated for their dedication to IWN - Carol O'Brien 35+years, and Mandy Piner 25+ years.

We do only have 3 Clubs now. It is hard to get new Clubs up and running, as they find it difficult to find training venues, and of course umpiring and coaching personnel. We have wanted to run another B2N programme, but cannot find available facilities.

We experimented by playing indoors for part of our League programme, which was enjoyed by many, and no cancellations due to bad weather.

During the season we have organised

- * National Schools County Round
- * Two Junior Development Groups U12 & U14 involving 30 players
- * 6 Primary Schools cluster Tournaments and a Finals tournament
- * Fun Friday Social Netball which is very popular
- * Senior & Junior IW Leagues and Tournaments
- * EN Into officiating Course
- * EN Hi 5 Coaching Workshop
- * 3 Walking Netball Groups & 2 ladies from one group attended the WN Host course

I am really pleased that we have at last managed to get a Summer League organised up & running, having not had this for several years. We are using it to encourage the umpires that attended the Into Officiating Course to gain more experience and confidence.

As with many Counties, I am sure, availability of facilities is a problem for organising more Netball. We are hampered by newly rebuilt schools having the wrong sized courts, flooring that seems to be sub standard and slippery, and during long building programmes not being available at all.

We will stay positive, and keep pushing, and am sure will offer even more Netball to players of all ages.

Ann Selby
Chair

CHAIR'S REPORT

"A year like no other"

I want to start this report by thanking my fellow County committee members, and all the volunteers who work tirelessly across other committees and leagues making the sport we love possible and long may this continue.

Thank you also to all our players and their army of support network around them who make their netball possible irrespective of age or ability.

I hope you and your families have stayed safe and well and I look forward to a return to Court soon.

Highlights: • The season didn't complete and regions, counties and leagues were forced to finalise league positions and the process for promotion and relegation. • Currently- (at the time of writing this), we are at stage 2 of England's 6 step process for returning to court and are considered a medium to high risk sport because of the contact and face to face nature of the game; it's therefore important that Clubs follow the EN guidance to keep their players and volunteers as safe as is practicably possible. • England Netball is compelling netballers to affiliate as it is a crucial part of their income stream- they will be offering an early bird discount and a discount dependant on the government guidance and EN's guidance on returning to Court. • Clubs and leagues have to make their own decisions on this affiliation based on their own circumstances. • North Bucks will not be charging a membership fee for the 2019-2020 season, nor will South region, irrespective of EN actions, therefore the fee this season will be only the element that is retained by EN. • There is media coverage on Mavericks Superleague who are trying to raise £50,000 crowd funding and some Counties have been approached for a £5000 contribution towards this. North Bucks will not be contributing to this, even though we have athletes in this programme, we have athletes in other franchises ;we do not believe this is the best application of our funding, which should go to local projects benefiting multiple players and plans that we want to implement for our own County. (see below). We wish Mavericks the best of luck in raising the funds and if anyone wishes to donate, there is a crowd funding page online.

What have we been up to this year?

1.0 COVID AND TRAINING:

Prior to lockdown the County had • Been delivering a successful performance programme across 3 age groups u 11 (new) u13 and U15 underpinned by lots of competition access with other Counties and clubs, including our U14 Youth squad playing in the MKINL league and finishing top of Championship division and we would like to thank the league for their partnership with the County in developing our youth with this model. • As part of our youth performance model, we mentored 4 new youth coaches in the U11 academy.

We had worked with the schools sub-committee to ensure the County rounds of National schools was successfully carried out, with the County sponsoring the medals for the winners and runners up. • We had started the process for setting up a youth County league to bridge the gap between club level and regional level youth leagues. • We were developing a walking netball programme and possible league for starting in September in conjunction with the 2 local organisations. • We had planned to look at a back to netball programme and possible league. • We were going to offer a non- certificated mentoring coaching programme aimed at community clubs, youth and seniors who wanted to develop their knowledge and coaching approach; this was going to be funded by County for free development locally and beyond. • We carried out our virtual awards night and all athletes were awarded a boxed medal as well as some of our girls being awarded titled trophies, (please see our website for more information),

Then COVID happened...

The County had pre-planned and immediately: • Put in a virtual training programme for the County focusing on 5 areas to maintain contact with the athletes in partnership with Mk Dons and MK Netters. (All youth athletes in the programme were invited into this). (This was provided free by the coaches). • In June, put in an optional virtual training programme for the adult leagues in Aylesbury and MKINL to train with Julie, our Chair, who is Head Coach of Dons and Netters and the U17 Super league Wasps MK Hub head coach.

In addition, our focus was on keeping the players motivated and with the right mindset for when we return to court and ensuring the concept of their team/squad was very much there, so we ensured fortnightly touchdown days that covered:

Additional activities:

1.Monthly challenge

2.Monthly sing off

3.Specific calendar events- ie Easter egg comp

4.specific netball challenges and fitness challenges via FB

5.Quizzes- online with squads

6.Game analysis sessions with their coaches

7,Saturday camp

8.Summer 3 day virtual camp planned for July and August 2020

9.County has and will continue to help and mentor other Counties to set up online provision for their own Counties.

10.Signposting to valuable resources like Netfit online via Facebook

Lyn Palmer

County secretary

Netball in Sussex had, prior to lockdown, continued at pace in all forms.

Kim Schepens works tirelessly supporting and mentoring potential umpires across the county.

The county are proud to have the National Schools U19 winning team at the National Schools finals in March. Worthing College retained their title and were probably the last team to play netball before the sport was suspended.

All local leagues have made their own decision regarding concluding their respective leagues with no future competition looking likely.

Academies also came to an abrupt end. This year we had three academies, a satellite, County academy and a development county academy. These were all well attended and thanks go to all the coaches and personnel involved in getting these organised. Sussex thanked Pete Carter for all his years involved in the sport in Sussex. Pete has had a long term involvement including academies, clubs, juniors and back in the day coaching the county teams. He will be missed greatly.

Although there are not any specific numbers, back to netball and walking netball groups prove ever popular and are well supported by returners or those feeling their competitive playing days are over.

We welcomed (via Zoom) Hannah Sturdy to NDO after a period again without a NDO. Jordan Oland was briefly in post but two NDOs in a year plus lockdown has made communication fragmented. Zoom meetings just aren't the same as a face to face meeting.

The website is being revamped and once we can return to another new normal, there will be plenty to do. Hopefully removing the Sussex portion of the affiliation will encourage people to return to the game once we can do so.

Thanks as always go to the committee, for their time, patience and energy.

Helen Willard
Chair

Once again, we had a busy start to the year. The main focus again being on producing good quality umpires.

We trialled a mentor programme for experienced umpires who wished to learn how to pass on their knowledge to trainee umpires. We hand selected a group of fantastic ladies, all of whom gave up their time during the summer period and joined the Umpire Academy programme and were given expert guidance from Jo Kelly, Gina Pearce, and Debs Horne, on how to mentor.

These mentors then helped the trainee umpires in the Junior League. This has worked incredibly well, and we were just in a position to move up 8 young umpires to the senior league when lockdown hit us, and everything came to a halt.

A huge thank you to our NDO Alison Hathaway for all the work she has done getting B2N, Walking Netball and Netball Now running in Oxfordshire. Ali is now on maternity leave and we wish her well with the forthcoming birth of her baby. Debbie Spindlow has taken over from Alison for the time being, until a more permanent replacement can be found.

During lockdown, we have run a couple of events to keep clubs active and in touch with their members. For the Adults we ran a Strava Challenge during the month of June. Running, cycling & walking their way around the 45 top rank INF countries. A total of 46,999 miles along with a competition for the top 3 contributors in miles.

Each week clubs sent in photos and a video was put together showing each teams progress.

Banbury Blues Blister Sisters and Quaranteam got 1st & 2nd Place with OSP Livin' La Vida Lockdown came in 3rd Place. Week 3 of Strava Challenge & Final week of the Netball World tour video link below:

<https://youtu.be/hplbxCbAylg> Week 3

<https://youtu.be/lucV6XTIVPA> Netball World Tour

For the juniors we ran a sock shooting competition over 7 weeks. 15 socks a laundry basket, 4m distance and 30 secs to shoot the socks. The competition started with 64 participants and climaxed in the final which we shot live at our CV. A video was produced each week and sent back out to the girls to watch. Below is one of the week's video and the final which we shot live.

Congratulations to Zahra – Abbey 1st Place, Emily – Bicester Foxes 2nd Place, Abigail – Bicester Foxes 3rd Place & Phoebe – Bicester Foxes 4th Place.

<https://youtu.be/mfsUebOBKeQ> Round 2s video

https://youtu.be/6Cne_Lp7kuM Finals of the Sock Shooting Tournament.

We purchased a pro licence for Zoom which was made available to all clubs to access so they could talk longer than 40 mins without getting cut off. It has been used by 6 clubs so far and numerous Board meetings and League Committee meetings. Something, we all agree we will continue to do after lockdown. So hard to tie up people's busy netball diaries when we are back in full swing.

I would like to thank everyone who sits on the board, for the excellent work they have done this year and are continuing to do during this pandemic.