



# Annual Report 2015-2016



## Chairman – Bill Alexander

I wish to thank all of the Regional Board for the support that they have given me in my role as Chair. The South Region continues to face a number of challenges and on each occasion the Board has risen to those challenges in providing effective solutions. The vision and direction of the Board is firmly aligned with the principles and objectives of England Netball in its aim to increase participation and to improve performance. The South Region has succeeded in these key areas by maintaining the level of its membership and the performance of Team South in spite of not being linked to a franchise.

Much of this success is due to our volunteers, without whom the Region would not be able to provide the diversity of leagues and competitions. There are huge demands placed upon our volunteers and the Technical Support Groups. Our Technical Support Groups ensure that competitions and leagues run well and that umpires are allocated to games. This season has seen increased demand to enter our Regional Leagues at senior and junior levels, placing further demands upon the Competitions Technical Support Group. It was with sadness that the Board accepted Priya Samuel's resignation as she had done much to stimulate interest in coaching across the Region, the highlight being the visit to Winchester of Lisa Alexander, the Australia Diamond's coach. Similarly thank you must go to the Team South support staff and Performance TSG for what they have achieved this season.

Our new website went live for the 2015 -2016 season and this is now much more interactive and up to date. To this end I must pay tribute to Jenny Obin who has done a huge amount of work on social media to keep members within the South Region up to speed with all events in the Region. During the year Jenny went on maternity leave and this left a gap in the office which has now been filled by Emma Whitehouse while Jenny is on maternity leave. Congratulations to Jenny and Chris on their baby son Isaac.

It would be remiss of me not to thank the County Boards for the excellent work that continues within our counties across the Region.

Over the next few years as a Region we will face a number of challenges: commercial leagues, commercialisation, the need to increase participation, improvement in performance, access to high class facilities, demands upon our volunteers and Sport England's strategy 'Towards an Active Nation' - all having impact upon the work and direction of England Netball and its Regions.

As a result of a much more open and transparent process in recruiting to our Technical Support Groups we saw more volunteers coming forward for these groups. However, we still need new members for these groups and also to our Board.

During the course of the year the Region and Counties have been well supported by England Netball Staff. The Region and Counties are mindful of the financial support received from England Netball for Region and County personnel. We are guided by them to agree and set targets so that we are all aligned to the Whole Sport Plan. We know that 2017 will bring new challenges and possible structures for the Region and Counties as we continue to deliver on agreed targets.

Finally, I look forward to working with you all next year as we continue to work co-operatively for the benefit of netball across the Region.

## Competition – Carol Alexander

The season started with 52 teams applying for the Entry Tournament to enter the U13/14/16/19 Regional leagues resulting in the need for a two day tournament playing two age groups on each day. While this was a fantastic response from around the region, the regional league is a performance league and several teams were not of the right standard and merely entering as a pre-season tournament. There will be tighter entry conditions for 2016/17. It was also difficult to source umpires for two consecutive days.

The junior leagues did not start well and teams had to be sent several reminders to send in results on time and to use the correct paperwork. Serious consideration is being given to imposing penalties for this next year. Experienced club personnel need to be more responsible in training any new club volunteers as to what they need to do. The CTSG would also like to remind some junior teams that we are volunteers running the league and do not need to be constantly contacted about updating of league tables.

The Open League ran smoothly apart from a couple of games cancelled due to lack of umpires. An U19 league game also had to be cancelled due to lack of umpires.

Full league results for 2015/16 can be found on [www.netballsouth.co.uk](http://www.netballsouth.co.uk) but congratulations must go to all of our league winners in the respective leagues. We must also congratulate all teams that went on to represent the region in National finals at school and club level.

The regional round of the National Schools was held in January at Wavell; thankfully the weather was kind to us. Play ran smoothly with only a few issues to deal with on the day. Next year we will use the same venue but introduce parking passes to reduce the traffic on site (there is a public car park only five minutes walk from the venue). Thank you for the success of this event must go to the venue staff and The Wavell League Committee.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the End of Season tournament in June 2015. This year we tried to combine this with England Netball's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and offer a more fun event with proceeds going to EN Charity but again this has been cancelled due to lack of entries. The CTSG will not be attempting to run this event again.

Planning for 2016/17 has started with league dates and some tournament dates already on the website. We will once again be reviewing the regulations but will try to keep these as close as possible to those issued by EN. However we will be making changes so clubs need to read these carefully.

I would once again like to thank all members of the CTSG for their commitment to the South Region and for all the work they have done this year. That said we still need more members of the CTSG in order to lighten the load in an ever increasing work load. Next year we do have a new member joining us but have one member taking more of a back seat. Hence roles will be re-organised and all clubs will be notified.

Carol Alexander  
(Chair and on behalf of CTSG)

## Officiating – Carol Williams

The season has been an extremely busy one for umpires at all levels whether officiating in the local leagues or at Regional and National levels and we are very pleased to see the continued success of our umpires in the South. In addition we have supported our volunteer work force to do other roles such as assessors, mentors, tutors and Bench Officials.

The OTSG has seen a number of members over the years volunteer to ensure that Netball South continues to thrive, one of those being Gillian Frackelton. Gillian has been a member for 26 years and has dedicated her time to organising many of the events and maintaining our lists of umpires during this time. She is passionate about the work of the OTSG and the support she can give to umpires and officiating across the board. We are grateful for all her support and will greatly miss her experience and commitment as we move into next season.

### **National Appointments**

#### **Premier League Play Offs**

Many of our A Award umpires attended the playoffs at the beginning of May.

#### **National Schools Finals 2016**

With the National Round played in Brighton the South turned out in force and the following umpires represented our region:

Alice Johnson, Carol Williams, Tania Everett, Julie Wilks, Estelle Ball, Elaine Shannahan, Chris Obin, Chantel Moore, Megan Pratt and Liz Sywyj

Our Umpires, based on their performance on the day, were awarded:

Semi Finals	U14 Megan Pratt U16 Julie Wilks and Carol Williams U19 Estelle Ball and Elaine Shannahan
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Playoff	U19 Liz Sywyj
Finals	U14 Alice Johnson U19 Chris Obin

#### **National Under 16 Finals in Newcastle**

Two Umpires from the South attended; Liz Sywyj and Olivia Johnson, who took charge in the final.

#### **U 14 Finals in Redbridge**

The South had representatives at the U14 National Clubs including Bronwen Rees, Chantel Moore, Estelle Ball and Julie Wilks, with Bronwen Rees selected to umpire the final.

### **Courses**

OTSG has organised two B Award courses this year:

June 2015 attended by 12 umpires: Tutor – Carol Alexander

November 2015 attended by 10 umpires: Tutor – Bill Alexander

Another course was planned for April 2016 but was cancelled due to the introduction of the new rules.

Three People sat the written paper in May 2015  
Four people sat the written paper in November 2015  
0 people sat the written paper work in February 2016.

This is a drop on last year and we have been working hard to increase these numbers for the coming year, with 12 candidates sitting the paper in May 2016. It is vital that we continue to work in the region to move people on from the C award through to their B and A awards in order that we can continue to support the Regional Competitions.

Beginner and/or C Award courses have been held by Hampshire, Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Sussex and South Bucks throughout the year.

### **Tests**

Congratulations to the following:

One new A: Julie Wilks

Five new Bs: Mandy Gerrard, Lorraine Creed, Rachel Hewett, Becci Dick, Adina Campbell

### **C Awards**

This year saw the continuation across the region of a high number of assessments for Beginner and C Awards umpires. During the coming year the region will be working with the county umpiring secretaries to increase the number of learner umpires and those acquiring their umpire awards.

### **Assessors**

Following on from last year we were still unable to get any new assessors with the course still being devised through England Netball. However towards the end of 2015 this was completed. A number of our current assessors have now completed the training and have been re-accredited.

### **Open League**

Over 90 A, B and C Award umpires have been eligible to officiate during the season for Divisions 1, 2, 3 and U19 but with commitments to Premier League, some who coach as well as umpire, injuries, and being away at University it is a difficult balance to ensure that we have enough umpires for every match. Many thanks to Julie Arnold and Kim Schepens who organised the umpire schedule this year and dealt with continuing changes right up to the last minute. Unfortunately this year we had to cancel a few matches due to shortages of umpires, and to avoid even more a number of umpires committed to doing two matches some weeks.

Once again, a huge thank you to all the umpires for working with us to support the region. Many thanks to them for their professionalism and commitment but we do desperately need more umpires and are working with all the Counties to make this happen

### **NPL League**

This year the NPL league was run on new rules and all regions were asked to use more A grade umpires. We took the opportunity to use our newly qualified A grade umpires who had not been used for Premier League matches and our B award umpires who had passed their written papers and were actively working towards their A awards. Six umpires were used and had the opportunity to umpire all these matches under the new rules.

Through these matches, and running another course, a further six bench officials started the process of the theory evening and have put this into practice.

## Schools Regional Round U14/16/19 – January 2016 Farnborough

This tournament would not have been possible without the support and full cooperation of all the umpires who officiated, many of whom went home with some positive feedback provided by experienced non-active umpires who combined this with the role of court manager.

The following umpires featured in the final rounds:

### Under 14s

Semi	Julie Wilks, Chantel Moore, Helen Turton, Carol Williams
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	Sheryll Macdonald, Liz Sywyj
Final	Julie Wilks, Megan Samuel

### Under 16s

Semi	Nikki Dewick, Becci Dick, Elaine Shannahan, Bronwen Rees
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	Erin Graham, Bronwen Rees
Final	Carol Williams, Becci Dick

### Under 19s

Semi	Estelle Ball, Liz Sywyj, Megan Samuel, Chris Obin
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	Rachel Hewett, Nikki Dewick
Final	Chris Obin, Estelle Ball

Once again, I would like to praise the hard work done by the OTSG. We have had a number of meetings this year to discuss the organisation of umpires for the many tournaments which are now being held as well as confirming tests and courses taking place. We have also built up our working relationships with the Competitions Group and now match up with colleagues as required to ensure that umpires or mentors are provided for competitions.

### **Carol Williams**

On behalf of the OTSG:

Julie Arnold

Estelle Ball

Gillian Frackelton

Jenny Poore

Kim Schepens

Julie Wilks

## Performance and NPL – Phyllis Avery MBE

'Performance' covers both Team South and the Regional Performance Programme, and this year has seen an enhanced level of activity.

### Netball Performance League

The format for the N.P.L. changed for the 2015/16 season, with no Opening or Closing tournaments, and all matches taking place during a concentrated period February – April 2016. In addition, there will be an intensive

3-day block of competition to be held at Loughborough University in July (two matches per day for three consecutive days) to replicate the intensity and pressure which athletes face if they are selected to represent England at an International event.

Advertisements were placed for the vacant roles of Head Coach, Assistant Coach and Team Manager, and after interview Elly Moore was appointed Head Coach, Lisa Manning as Assistant Coach, and Sue Baldwin as Team Manager.










For this season Team South rebranded as Team South Tigers, with a new uniform supplied as part of a three year sponsorship agreement with Zoti, which included 12 netball dresses each for both the U19 and U17 squads, and track suits and warm-up tops for the U19s, all echoing the tiger theme. The girls love them, and they have been very much admired by our opposition. There is also the opportunity for the athletes to purchase additional items of kit, such as 'hoodies', in team colours from the Team South Tigers online shop on the Zoti website.

Trials were held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October at Eagle House School, Sandhurst, and a competition squad of 15 was selected, plus an U17 training squad of six. As was expected, some members of last year's Team South attended trials for Surrey Storm Youth (which has a Superleague franchise), and two were successful. In return, we welcomed back two athletes from Surrey Storm Youth to Team South Tigers.

Training was held weekly on Tuesdays from November to April. Of the nine matches played, four were 'Home' matches, two of which were played at Surrey Sports Park (almost the centre of our region!) against West Midlands Warriors and Junior Dragons, and two were played at Sparsholt College against Mavericks and Team Northumbria. 'Away' destinations included Manchester and Leeds, both of which involved overnight stays.

Our final position in the league was sixth out of 10, with losses against Mavericks by just two goals and Team Bath by three goals, both of which could have gone either way. Full results were as follows:-

## League Table

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	+	+/-	GA	Pts
1	 Manchester Thunder Youth	9	9	0	0	546	222	1.7	45
2	 Surrey Storm Youth	9	8	1	0	534	248	1.9	42
3	 Yorkshire Jets Youth	9	6	3	0	449	41	1.1	34
4	 Hertfordshire Mavericks Youth	9	6	3	0	471	106	1.3	33
5	 Team Bath Youth	9	5	4	0	419	7	1.0	30
6	 Team South Tigers	9	4	5	0	382	-26	0.9	26
7	 West Midlands Warriors	9	3	6	0	348	-88	0.8	21
8	 Team Northumbria Youth	9	2	7	0	341	-155	0.7	15
9	 Loughborough Lightning Youth	9	2	7	0	355	-161	0.7	14
10	 Junior Dragons	9	0	9	0	323	-194	0.6	8

Defensively, Team South Tigers were strong and achieved a number of turnovers in all the matches, but often were not able to convert them. Rosie Ling (GK) was voted by the athletes as the player who contributed most to the team.

Team South Tigers would like to thank all the officials who gave up their time to umpire both home and away, and Netball South would like to thank all the parents who ferried their daughters around so willingly and patiently, and who supported the squad throughout the season. We do appreciate it, and are sorry to say 'Goodbye' to those whose daughters will be too old for next season. Thank you also to our mascot, Lillie, whose outfit reinforced our tiger theme.

### National Academy

Our congratulations to the following South athletes who were selected into the National Academy:-

- Charlotte Curtis
- Ashleigh Dekker
- Sophie Drakeford-Lewis

Both Charlotte and Ashleigh were selected to play for the victorious England U17 squad at Netball Europe, and are members of Team South Tigers squad. All three are aiming for selection into the U19 Tour Squad going to Jamaica in August.

### Partnership Agreement with England Netball

In September 2015 we entered into a Partnership Agreement with England Netball, and confirmed that all regional planning and activities would be based on the EN Performance Pathway, bearing in mind the following principles:-

- An 'Athlete centred approach'
- Extending the reach of the academies
- Increasing the quality and quantity of athletes within the Performance Pathway
- Selecting athletes to cover all positions
- Using a no boundaries approach

We have been working to implement the principles of our agreement with England Netball, including working closely with the Coaching TSG and making all regional academy sessions open to coaches throughout the region. We have added a Potential Group to track athlete progress and provide



exposure to the next level of the Performance Pathway, a new Scouting Workshop has been run, and we are looking to appoint a new volunteer Regional Selector and Regional Scouts.

### **Regional Academies**

This programme is largely funded by England Netball.

The South **Regional Performance Academy** has been running since July 2013 at Oasis Community Hub, Lords Hill, Southampton, on Monday evenings from 8.00 to 10.00 pm, preceded by 1.5 hours Strength & Conditioning and physio treatment at Solent University, and attended by approx. 20 athletes. Some additional court sessions were held on Thursday evenings and at day camps during school holidays to make up the required number of coach-contact hours of eight every week. Head Coach is Elly Moore, Performance Pathway Coach, who is employed by England Netball, with Linda Cairney, who is a volunteer, as Assistant Coach.

The **Regional Academy** has also been running since September 2013 at Oasis, this year for four hours each week on Monday evenings from 6.00 to 8.00 pm, and some Thursday evenings, and attended by 16 – 20 athletes. (The numbers vary, as most graduate to RPA, and a few drop out due to the competing demands of school work and training, or are de-selected.)

Our PPC was advised in September that Oasis (Green) would no longer be available for community use after 31<sup>st</sup> December, so considerable time and effort was spent, without success, trying to find an alternative location for our academies. Finally, in December, we were advised that the Green Lane facility was being taken over by Testlands Hub from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, and that we would be able to continue to use it for training.

### **Satellite and County Festivals**

A very successful Satellite Academies Festival was held on 10<sup>th</sup> April, with all counties represented, and a County Academies Festival was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, both at The University of Chichester.

The aim of the Academies Festivals is to bring together the best of the South's Academy athletes for a competitive match-play event, allowing benchmarking by both athletes and coaches. The emphasis is not so much on winning, but on the athletes displaying their netball skills alongside fellow academy players and against others who have had the same level of training.

Awards were made at the end of the Festivals based on the five England Netball 'trademarks' – We are United – We are Relentless – We are Diverse – We are Resilient – We are Fearless.

### **Summer Camp**

Bradfield College was again the venue for our popular and very successful Summer Camp, August 2015, attended by 48 netballers, 14 – 17 years old. All County Academy and Satellite Academy coaches were invited to attend, either to spectate or to get involved as part of the coaching team.

Summer Camp this year will be held 14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August at Bradfield College, and so far 46 netballers have signed up to attend.

## Finance Group – Phyllis Avery MBE

We have conducted an Independent audit of the accounting statements of Netball South for the financial year ending 30 April 2016 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Practice.)

This report is made solely for the members of Netball South. Our Audit work has been undertaken so that I may state to the members of Netball South those matters I am required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to another other than Netball South and the members of Netball South as a body, for my audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### Scope of audit of financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of; whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the organisation's circumstance and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the members; and overall presentation of the financial statements.

### Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements: -

- Give a true and fair view of the state of Netball South's affairs as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice


### Opinion on other matters required by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where it is appropriate to report to you if, in our opinion;

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received; or
- the financial statements to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- We have not received all information and explanations we require for the audit.

### Recommendations from previous audit

There were no recommendations from the previous audit.



PRB Accountants LLP  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2016

**NETBALL SOUTH**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
**YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2016**

	2016	2015
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Affiliations	25,262	24,503
England Performance League	8,031	8,425
Regional Academies	14,634	16,082
Leagues		
Open League	8,785	3,245
U19 League	3,813	840
Junior League	4,430	3,610
Coaching	7,280	-
Officiating	3,276	-
National Schools	4,400	3,875
Summer Camps	13,065	11,085
Academies Festival	1,425	365
Golden Globes	858	
Miscellaneous	3,988	1,886
Bank Interest	114	49
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>99,361</u>	<u>74,065</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Netball Performance League	12,174	15,856
Regional Academies	14,846	13,805
Leagues		
Open League	13,499	1,588
Junior League	3,761	1,825
Coaching	8,650	-
National Schools	2,023	2,556
Summer Camps	11,399	10,333
AGM / Golden Globes	4,122	3,532
Academies Festivals	230	955
TSG Meeting Expenses	8,345	4,536
Officiating	4,018	9,066
RMB Meeting Expenses	1,526	2,822
Admin / Miscellaneous	1,893	1,364
Bursaries	1,595	1,901
	<u>58,081</u>	<u>69,870</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for year	11,280	4,195
Balance brought forward	127,106	122,911
<b>BALANCE AT 30 APRIL 2016 CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>138,386</u>	<u>127,106</u>

## NETBALL SOUTH

### BALANCE SHEET

30 APRIL 2016

	2016		2015
	£	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepayments	1,299		"
Bank Account	156,577		127,106
	<u>157,876</u>		<u>127,106</u>
Deferred Income	(13,490)		-
Accruals	<u>(6,000)</u>		<u>-</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		138,386	127,106
<b>NETBALL SOUTH BALANCE</b>		<u>138,386</u>	<u>127,106</u>

## Regional Unit Report – Holly Hart

We have a relatively new staff team in the South but they have risen to the challenge of what was a busy year in 2015/16, delivering a vast number of high quality programmes across the region. We have provided programmes and opportunities to support new and existing netballers, tailoring our offers to meet the needs of our audience.

We cannot do this alone. Netball in the South is driven by our fantastic volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure our sport remains the number one choice for women and girls in England. We cannot thank you enough for all you do, and personally I am very excited about working with you over the coming season and continuing the success we have seen during 2015.

Below is a summary of the major programmes delivered during this year.

### **Back to Netball**

This year the NDOs and NDCCs have delivered 87 new Back to Netball sessions, with over 1800 participants who are “new to netball” taking part. This programme is designed to provide a gentle reintroduction to the sport with a focus on fun to retain participants in the game. Sustainability is a very important part of these programmes and the team have worked hard to provide clear exit routes through new Back to Netball teams and leagues, Netball Now (pay and play sessions) and existing club set ups.

### **Netball Now**

Netball Now is our pay and play option for women looking for a commitment-free way to enjoy netball. This is primarily delivered during the summer, as a way for existing netball players to get some extra playing time. During the year the team have delivered 11 Netball Now programmes which reached over 375 participants. We are working with a number of organisations and County Associations who have purchased a licence to deliver Netball Now – if you would like any further information on this option please speak to your local Netball Development Officer.

### **Coaching Education Courses (UKCC)**

Four UKCC Level 1 courses have been run in Berkshire, Sussex, Oxfordshire and Hampshire.

A further five Level 1 courses are planned for 2016/17 across Berkshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire and Sussex.

Four UKCC Level 2 courses have taken place in Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Sussex and Berkshire. Unfortunately a course scheduled for Sussex did not take place due to low numbers.

Five Level 2 courses are planned for 2016/17 in the Isle of Wight (half course), Hampshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

### **Continuing Professional Development – (CPD)**

In addition to the coaching qualifications, the team organised six High Five workshops to support delivery to our U11 age groups across the Region. England Netball are currently working to update the portfolio of Technical Skills Workshops on offer, which has seen a large decrease in the number of these delivered.

The team have also supported the Regional Management Board to ensure successful delivery of a South Coaching Series; three workshops to further develop the quality of coaching on offer across the Region. These were very well supported and delivered to an exceptionally high standard.

## **CAPS**

This year the following clubs either completed or reaccredited through the CAPS process:

### Bronze

Kidlington Kites  
Newbury Junior Netball Club  
Team Matrix  
Ravens Netball Club

### Silver

Applemore  
Bordon United Girls  
Challow  
Clan  
Dreams Netball Club  
Mid Sussex Netball Club  
Windsor Netball Club  
Wingrave Netball Club  
Woodley

### Gold

CD Phoenix Netball Club

## **England Netball – South Team Staff**

Following some fairly significant staff changes over the past few years we have now achieved some consistency and stability within the staff in the South Region. A list of the staff currently working in the region is below. We have worked closely with our colleagues in the Growth Delivery Team to ensure the Netball Development Community Coaches (NDCCs) are located in areas that will effectively support the growth of our sport in previously 'hard to reach' areas.

Regional Manager	Holly Hart
Regional Co-ordinator	Emma Whitehouse (Maternity cover for Jenny Obin)
Performance Pathway Coach	Elly Moore
Berkshire & Oxfordshire NDO	Nicola Young
Buckinghamshire NDO	Joanne Odro (3 days per week)
Hampshire & IOW NDO	Carey McCormick
Sussex NDO	Stacey Boxall

### Netball Development Community Coaches (NDCCs)

Windsor, Maidenhead and Slough	Louise Exton
Portsmouth	Debbie Laycock

## County Reports - Berkshire

Berkshire Netball has once again enjoyed a successful year. At our AGM in May we welcomed a number of new members to the Board in the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and Events Secretary who have been a great addition to the team.

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. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in netball in some way during the 2015/16 season and also to the members of the Board who have worked tirelessly throughout the year.

Berkshire Netball has been busy this year in a number of ways:-

- Run a very successful indoor Junior league which attracts teams from outside of the County as well as within Berkshire
- Organised a Berkshire Junior Netball League Awards Evening with special guest Sophia Candappa from Surrey Storm presenting the medals to the league winners and individual award players
- 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/assessors
- Run a successful Satellite and County Academy programme for approximately 60 talented young players, some of whom have graduated to the Regional Academy
- Funded Academy coaches to attend the National Coaching Conference in September 2015
- Organised and run the County round of the National Schools competition
- Provided financial support to Berkshire clubs attending National Clubs Finals
- Provided bursaries of £250 to all local leagues
- Organised a free Rules Forum delivered by Margaret Deighan to introduce the new EN rules to 90 delegates

We have also welcomed a new England Netball Development Officer, Nicola Young, who has been very busy working to support the Board and to deliver various England Netball initiatives within the County.

We are looking forward to building on these successes next season and continuing to support our members in the best way we can.

Sarah Feast  
Chair, Berkshire Netball

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## Hampshire

### Awards

This year has seen a slightly different process for the County, which has been agreed by the Committee to celebrate and recognise its volunteers via a County Award Celebration Evening. This new format will launch in 2017. Support to the Regional and National Golden Globes Awards (GGA) is still being provided. Regional Golden Globes are due to be held in Farnborough on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016. We wish all our amazing Volunteers, Coaches, Clubs & Officials all the very best!

BUGS Netball club were nominated and shortlisted for 'Club of the Year' at the Alton Sports Awards. Narrowly missing out on 1<sup>st</sup> place but great to be awarded runners up! Congratulations to all at BUGS, who continue to demonstrate commitment and dedication to the club's development.

### Back to Netball

Over 2,200 ladies have come 'Back to Netball' in 2015-16 in Hampshire alone. With 79% of these being New to Netball, this programme continues to thrive, engage and empower ladies, all across the County.

Various sessions are running via our Netball Development Community Coach (NDCC) Debbie Laycock in Fareham, Portsmouth, Gosport, Southampton and Eastleigh. In addition, sessions have been run in the Ringwood area and are currently being run in Winchester, Alton, and Andover. Further sessions start in Basingstoke, Farnborough and Fleet.

### Competition

Local competitions have been run in Local Authority areas, with winners from these rounds progressing to the L3 Hampshire School Games which is taking place on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The Hampshire County Round of National Schools for 2015 was held at Southampton Sports Centre. The U16, U19 Competition, Open competition and a Recreational Challenge Cup were held at the same venue for the first time this year. Results as follows:

U14 Winners	Portsmouth Grammar School
U14 Runners up	King Edward IV School
U16 Winners	Portsmouth Grammar School
U16 Runners up	Thornden School
U19 Winners	Peter Symonds College
U19 Runners up	Farnborough College
U19 Open Competition Winners	Portsmouth Grammar School
U19 Open Competition Runners up	Peter Symonds College
16-21 Recreational Challenge Cup Winners	Brockenhurst 3
16-21 Recreational Challenge Cup Runners Up	South Downs College

Congratulations to all the Winners and Runners up of the competition who went on to represent Hampshire at the South Regional rounds.

### County Sports Partnership (CSP) Sport Hampshire & IOW (SHIOW)

Our CSP, SHIOW have various initiatives including - Coaching Hampshire & IOW, Project 500, Disability Network & their Scholarship Scheme for Coaches, Officials & Volunteers. Various volunteers have been successful in obtaining funding from the Scholarship Scheme and are now fully qualified L2 or L1 coaches and are actively 'giving back' to their local community /club.



## **Facilities / Capital Investment**

It's been a busy, but very productive and exciting time for Hampshire this year! Key venues that were identified in the County Facility Venue Audit have been supported via way of England Netball's Equipment Loan scheme. Both Basingstoke Netball Association and Brookfield School have applied and been successful for new netball posts which are vital for activity to continue and grow at these venues.

In addition, England Netball is delighted to be working in partnership with Eastleigh Borough Council, Places for People & Sport England for the redevelopment of Fleming Park Leisure Centre. The new centre will have an eight lane swimming pool and a 15 court (3 indoor netball court) sports hall. Extremely excited for what this means not only for netball, but for the community and to engage and empower even more people into active healthy lifestyles.

## **Netball Now**

Over 250 ladies have attended a Netball Now session in Hampshire this year which have run in Alton, Eastleigh, Fareham, Fleet, Portsmouth and Southampton. With Netball Now Licences now being available to partners and leisure centre providers, we hope to increase the availability of this programme widely within the County.

## **Netball Youth Camps**

Netball Youth Camps are running all over the country again this year. Our Southampton Netball Camp ran in August 2015 and I am delighted to confirm this will run again for 2016 from 22<sup>nd</sup> August – 26<sup>th</sup> August, for 11-16 year olds. For 'Nothing but Netball' this summer, head over to [www.netballevents.co.uk](http://www.netballevents.co.uk) to secure your place. Bookings are open now.

## **Officiating**

Two closed Young Netball Organisers (YNO) courses have been run and a Youth Umpire Orientation workshop has also run this year.

There have also been some changes for Officiating this year. 'Into Officiating' has officially been launched; this replaces the Youth Umpire Award and the Beginner Award. The C Award course becomes the 'Towards C'.

In January 2016, the International Netball Federation agreed some new rule changes. These are being implemented at elite level first and were introduced during the Roses International Series against the Australian Diamonds. The rule changes do not come into play at local level until September 2016.

Our Officiating workforce continues to work tirelessly to ensure everyone has the opportunity to learn about these new fast paced rules! A Regional Roadshow was held at Farnborough in March 2016. In addition, each local league within the County has or is running a Rules Forum. Thank you very much to all our Officiating Tutors for their hard work and dedication.

A total of six courses have run across Hampshire in Portsmouth, Southampton and Basingstoke. An Into Officiating Orientation took place in February. Planning for 2016-2017 courses is underway and will be advised once fully confirmed. Please note that due to the new changes no further officiating courses will run until September 2016.

## **UNO University Netball Officer - Higher Education (HE)**

The current Hampshire UNO role is based at the University of Portsmouth (UOP). Planning is underway for the UNO role to continue in the new academic term, which may include further UNO roles within the County.

## **Walking Netball**

Over 30 ladies have been engaged via our Farnham Walking Netball Pilot this year. Walking Netball is also ideal for rehabilitation as it is a slower paced version of the game so anyone can play it regardless of age or fitness levels.

Further pilots have been identified and these are starting to run from April 2016 all over the country with a view to be rolled out nationally from September 2016. Further details on Walking Netball can be found here [http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/my-game/Walking\\_Netball](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/my-game/Walking_Netball)

**Thank you!**

I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to all our Partners, Volunteers, Officials, Clubs, Coaches, Tutors, Local Leagues and County Netball Association - HNA, for all your hard work, effort and tireless hours put in behind the scenes. From us at England Netball, to you, thank you for all you do for Netball in your area. We couldn't do it without you and it is very much appreciated.

Carey McCormick  
Hampshire and IOW Netball Development Officer

## Isle of Wight

Yet again it has been a successful season for Isle of Wight netball. The association has continued its hard work and has introduced the pilot scheme of 'Walking Netball'. Three of our UKCC Level 2 coaches attended the 'Walking Netball' activation day in Dudley. The day was filled with lots of laughter and smiles. The pilot is well underway in the West Wight area and is proving an early success with a number of committed participants. We are hoping in the near future to expand this scheme to the Cowes and Ryde areas.

We were very pleased to have the support from England Netball and the region in organising a UKCC Level 2 coaching course. Congratulations are in order to all of our eight participants who have now been deemed competent. Many thanks to the Regional Management Board for their financial support to several of the coaches, this truly made a huge difference.

An 'Into Officiating' course took place in January 2016, with fifteen eager participants. Additionally, Chris Grimes and Trevor George attended the 'C' award Assessors training. Thank you to them for continually supporting the island.

Like previous years both the Satellite Academy and the Gwyn Foster Academy have run to great effect. Each academy has overseen the progression of many enthusiastic girls. Anne Selby and Chris Grimes have been at the heart of these academies and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Furthermore, both Chris and Anne attended the recent Scouting Workshop held in Southampton.

Over the season the Isle of Wight has organised:-

- The Friday night social netball evenings
- IW Senior League and Junior Leagues
- IW Senior and Junior tournaments
- Five primary school High 5 Cluster Tournaments including a finals competition
- The County round of the National Schools Competition
- Gwyn Foster Development Academy
- Satellite Academy

We will be concluding our season with an Awards evening on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July.

Once again the Isle of Wight committee have been excellent in supporting myself and netball as a whole.

Netball on the IOW continues to be represented very well by 3 CAPS clubs: Gurnard, Shorwell and Solent N.C. The 'behind the scenes' work not only of the clubs' volunteers, but of the Netball Association continues with dedication, time and effort, which is very much appreciated by us here at England Netball. We couldn't do it without you!

Several development opportunities have been provided, including personal essential opportunities for teachers, coaches and officials by way of a UKCC L2 and a new rules forum kindly delivered by Bill! This maintains and strives to increase netball provision and opportunities for all on the island and in addition supporting England Netball's Vision, Mission and goals.

There is also some very exciting news happening with Roz, Anne and Chris now being trained England Netball 'Walking Netball' Hosts. Fantastic news for the island and the pilot being run at West Wight Community Centre, with more plans in place for further sessions in the future.

Roz Davitt  
Chair, Isle of Wight Netball

Carey McCormick  
Netball Development Officer – Hampshire & IOW

## South Bucks

It's been another busy year of netball in South Bucks, with our junior leagues attracting new teams and our performance athletes doing extremely well. We were also one of the first counties in England to have 'Walking Netball' sessions and a 'Walking Netball' tournament.

Clan and Bucks Phoenix clubs both represented South Bucks in the Netball South Regional League, and Clan also played in the National Premier League Division 2.

The Winter League at Kingsmead lost a lot of teams and this caused a problem with the number of teams per division, which resulted in the majority of teams playing four less matches. Friendly games were scheduled instead, but these were not well supported and teams were left with a large gap between the winter and summer seasons. The South Bucks committee will work with the South Bucks Winter League committee this year to help prevent these issues occurring again.

Once again the Kingsmead Management committee members have done a brilliant job in improving the clubhouse and maintaining the courts. It is a very tough job keeping this centre going and, on behalf of everyone who plays netball at Kingsmead, I would like to thank the committee for their hard work and dedication.

The Chalfont league had to move from Little Chalfont to Chesham part way through the winter season – thanks go to the Chalfont League committee for organising the switch in a very timely manner.

The County Academy and Satellite programmes ran for 30 and 15 weeks respectively for the under 16s and under 14s. Approximately 40 girls took part in this programme. We also ran two under 14 development squads for 10 weeks. Many thanks to all the coaches who worked hard to run these sessions.

The High Wycombe and District Junior League has grown extensively over the last 12 months, increasing by 50% from 20 to 31 teams. We would like to thank all the clubs for their commitment, co-operation and progressive attitude to developing the league.

We would like to extend our special thanks to Jan Harper for everything that she has done for South Bucks over many years. She has coached our county squads, been our Coaching Co-ordinator and, in the last few years, dedicated her time to the County and Satellite Academy programmes. Jan has decided it's time to step down from this role. She won't be disappearing as she has been the driver in getting 'Walking Netball' started in South Bucks and will continue to promote this version of the game.

Chantel Moore has taken the decision to step down from her role as Chair after many years at the helm. She is not leaving the committee altogether though, as she moves into her new role as Umpiring Secretary. Chantel is replaced as Chair by Stephen Ford.

Stephen Ford  
Chair, South Bucks Netball

## North Bucks

2015/16 really has been a season of two halves. Having gone through another season of transition with all but one new member in post following last year's AGM, I had started the season as Vice Chair but have finished off as Chairman. I was happy to step into the role as the committee members were all actively working in their new roles and I really feel that we now have a group of people committed to working hard together to put North Bucks on the netball map.

Highlights from this year have been:-

- We have continued to work and stick to the EN 4 year plan.
- We have again seen growth in the 'Back to Netball' and 'Walking Netball' initiatives.
- Our social media presence is now a key area with lots going on.
- All areas are again within agreed budget and we propose the same for next season.
- Whilst our fees have needed to increase a little we are still in line with other counties and/or cheaper.
- New rule changes are well under way and workshops have already taken place through ADNL and MK Leagues – two more will follow in July and September.
- A very successful year for Officiating
- We have had a few UKCC Level 2 coaches come through.
- Three academies are now in place.
- Four athletes have represented the East Region/East Midlands and National Academy, with one athlete selected for England Under 17s.

Moving forwards we will again work and stick to the EN plan and we will push on in all areas to continue to grow netball in North Bucks.

I would personally like to thank all committee members for their hard work throughout our first season as the NBNA committee and look forward to the new season.

Irma Walker  
Chair, NBNA

## Sussex

It's been another fantastic year of netball in Sussex. We continue to build on the work started when I joined you all in 2013/14 and we have achieved some incredible results this year, with more exciting projects in the pipeline.

As ever I'm your local link to England Netball, so I'll give you a few of our national updates and pull out some highlights for the year.

### England Netball updates & news

- We had our national launch of Walking Netball at Super Saturday. Expressions of interest for pilot projects were considered between March & April. Sussex has been selected to run a pilot project in Bexhill. National programme launch from September 2016.
- England Roses to go full time in bid to increase our chances of reaching the World Number One spot in 2019.
- This year the Superleague was taken to new heights, with the inaugural Super Saturday in January, and the launch of live streaming to give members more access. Feedback surrounding stream quality and access will all contribute to the service next year which will be even better.
- 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations for England Netball meant taking on a big challenge. 1,322 netballers participated in the largest ever exhibition match over Valentines weekend and created a new world record, whilst raising over £20,000 for Sports Relief.

### Regional League Standings 2015/16

u13 – CD Phoenix 5th place

u14 – MSN 7th Place

u16 – MSN 8th Place

u19 – CD Phoenix 3<sup>rd</sup> place

u19 – NRG Jnrs 7<sup>th</sup>

Div 1 – CD Phoenix 4<sup>th</sup>

Div 1 – NRG Tigers 7<sup>th</sup> (play offs to stay up)

Div 2 – Sussex Storm 1<sup>st</sup> (Promotion to Div 1)

Div 3 – NRG Pumas 2<sup>nd</sup> (Play offs to go up)

Div 3 – MSN 5th

Congratulations to Sussex Storm who finished the season unbeaten, with 14/14 wins gaining promotion to Division 1.

Good luck to Sussex Thunder, Sussex NRG Pumas and Sussex NRG Tigers who are all heading to play offs.

### Netball programmes & club success

- We have hosted 11 Back To Netball programmes across Sussex this year (compared to three in 2014/15) engaging with 265 women, 241 of whom were new to netball
- Eastbourne and Brighton hosted Netball Now programmes and engaged with 105 women. (throughput income of £2,000)
- We have two new teams entering leagues from Back to Netball programmes
- Selsey NC (formed from a 2014/15 B2N) have joined with Fishbourne & Midhurst clubs to found the Chichester Netball League

### Coaching & Officiating

- Sussex has hosted one UKCC Level 1 course
- Unfortunately the level 2 in Chichester was cancelled due to low bookings
- One Beginner umpire course (18 attended)
- Two Towards C umpire courses (26 attended)
- Youth Umpire Award delivered in three schools to 61 students
- Sussex coaches also engaged with Netball South and attended the Netball South Coaches Day at Surrey Sports Park

- Due to a combination of tutor availability, and recommendations from EN and Netball South, Sussex has only run one of each officiating course in 2015/16. We are now working towards securing dates for these courses in 2016/17.

### Festivals

- Junior clubs festivals this year
  - High 5 sections (u9-u11) engaged with over 300 juniors
  - 7s section (u12-u16) engaged with over 500 juniors
  - Received sponsorship from Brighton & Hove High School
- Two Back to Netball Festivals January and March (88 attended)
- One team from Chichester UNO programme went to the England Netball HE 'SHOTS' festival at the Copper Box and made it to the final.

### Funding Opportunities

- Working with clubs in the county we have successfully secured £5,814 of funding for projects (this figure does not take into account Sussex Netball bursaries).
- Sussex Netball bursary has successfully supported clubs/individuals with funding for:
  - Coaching qualifications (Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3)
  - Attendance at officiating courses and for officiating assessments
  - Purchasing equipment
  - Attendance at the National coaching/officiating conference

### Facilities

- The Eastbourne League is now playing on freshly resurfaced courts over at Hampden Park. Thanks must go to Sue for her efforts and to Sport England for supporting the resurfacing.
- Wednesday League (formally Lancing) has started up at Worthing College. Thanks must go to the committee for their hard work to ensure a smooth venue transition from Lancing to Worthing.
- Thanks must also go to the Worthing League committee for funding a resurfacing project. The upgraded surface will provide better grip and proper drainage will allow the league to run fixtures consistently without the weather rendering courts unplayable!

### 2016/17 Upcoming Projects

- **Coaching Workforce Development.** We want to increase the number of coaches qualifying in Sussex, and look at the support we can offer for continued development including mentoring and technical workshop provision
- **FE delivery.** We are aiming to increase our focus on netball provision (competitive and recreational) for the FE age group in Sussex this year. Looking at a combination of participation and leadership opportunities.

I'd like to thank all of the volunteers, clubs, coaches and individuals I have worked with this year.

Stacey Boxall  
Sussex Netball Development Officer

## Oxfordshire

The 2015/16 season has seen Oxfordshire's affiliations increase to a record high and, after fundamental change at Board level, with new volunteer roles created and closer working with partner organisations, a fresh new approach to developing netball is starting to emerge.

The first evidence of this can be seen with Oxfordshire's decision to invest in trainee primary school teachers, funding a training programme which supports students to have a greater understanding of the importance of sport in school and increase their understanding of how to coach netball at a young age.

The Board has also successfully applied to host a 'Walking Netball' pilot and has been involved in the first ever 'Walking Sports' Festival, working with the Oxfordshire Cricket Board, Oxford United Community Trust and Oxfordshire Age UK to promote this new and inclusive format of the sport – aiming to ensure netball really is a sport for all.

Oxfordshire Netball would like to take this opportunity to thank Felicity Emmerson (Vice Chair – Oxfordshire Netball Development Board), and Joanna Woodbridge (Treasurer - Oxfordshire Netball Development Board) who have decided to step down. Both have given a huge amount to netball in Oxfordshire, and we are very grateful for all they have done and wish them all the luck in the world with their future endeavours.

Caroline Robbins  
Chair, Oxfordshire Netball Development Board