

North West Leicestershire Netball League

AGM

Monday 5th June 2016 Time 7pm

Venue: Sir John Moore Foundation, Appleby Magna

Minutes:

1. Present:

Blaby, Bosworth, Measham, Ashby, Coalville, Swadlincote, Whitwick, Gracedieu, Overseal, LCNA

2. Apologies:

Hinckley Hornettes & Warriors (Disbanded)

3. Minutes of last AGM

Denise Bales, Ashby Proposed & Rachel Ridgill, Seconded.

4. Matters arising from minutes of last AGM

No matters outstanding

5. Chair Report

Good evening everyone, thank you all for coming, I'm pleased to say that a lot of the usual work for a league AGM was already done at our recent presentation ball so this should be short and sweet!

So what a season! Where do I start.... We saw this season grow, progress and run incredible smoothly and it has been a pleasure for me to sit on the committee and be a part of this well oiled machine! For this I would like to say thank you, thank you to the committee members for each offering their time, skills and input to ensure that behind the scenes we have a league that has progressed so well this season. Thank you to the umpires for ensuring the game is fair, safe and controlled, without them there would be no matches and from my time playing in this league I feel it's safe to say it's been the best umpiring season to date!

Thank you to the clubs, team and of course the players. Netball is about participation and encouraging people back to sport. To many, it seems to be addictive, you start small and it pulls you in, you give a little and it takes a lot, passion, pride, commitment, drive are just a few of the skills needed to play and we have this in spades in our league. I have taken a quote from a player this year that I would like to share with you all that I think sums this up perfectly.

As it became more of an all consuming passion, my relationship with it moved from beyond the court. I began to give more back to the sport, taking on committee roles and responsibilities but the sport was generous too giving me life affirming moments back when I qualified as a umpire and as later as a coach. I used to have a morbid fear of public speaking,

but the skills and confidence that I gained from achieving these qualifications, I have subsequently been able to apply to my day to day life which is something I have netball to thank for.

Another time I turned to netball was when I relocated home. It was my “comfort blankie” and made what could have been a slow and difficult integration into a new life much smoother. Joining a club and having that instant common interest makes any transition into a new situation so much easier and it is something that I have seen replicated for many people over the years who join a new club and I am sure it is reflected in many other clubs up and down the country.

But perhaps the biggest gift I have gained through netball is my wonderful netball friends who have become my extended family. When the road has at times become a little rocky, their love and support has always been there and without which, I could have found myself lost so for that, more than anything else, I will be eternally grateful to netball for.

Gemma Braga from Hinckley! New to our league this season.

So that brings us to now...and our successes! The league was won, the plate and cup finals taken place and netball standards reaching new levels for this development league. Well done to all the teams, players and umpires who were recognised in the presentation ball.

Award:	Winner	Pts/Goals
Umpire of the Year	Jayne Tate (Blaby)	
Division 2 – MVP	Emma Deloughery (Swadlincote Starlings)	6
Division 1 – MVP	Hari Caple (Blaby Thundercats)	6
Player’s Player: Ashby Blaby Bosworth Gracedieu Hinckley Overseal Swadlincote Measham	Joanna Hart Hari Caple Sally Penney Rowena Hackwood Gemma Braga Emma Whetton Michelle Allton Angela Winch	
Division 2 – Best Defence	Swadlincote Starlings	282
Division 1 – Best Defence	Blaby Wildcats	304
Division 2 – Best Attack	Gracedieu Diamonds	495
Division 1 – Best Attack	Ashby	641
Division 2 – Sportsmanship	Whitwick Hounds Swadlincote Starlings	33 33
Division 1 – Sportsmanship	Coalville Bosworth Roses	36 36
Plate Winner	Hinckley Hornettes	
Cup Winner	Blaby Wildcats	
Division 2 – Runner Up	Hinckley Hornettes	74
Division 2 – Winner	Gracedieu Diamonds	75.5

Division 1 – Runner Up	Ashby	94.5
Division 1 - Winner	Blaby Wildcats	107
Tournament Runner up	Etwall Lions	
Tournament Winners	Grasshoppers	

Thank you to the committee for organising the first NWL netball ball, which for those who attended, I'm sure you will agree was roaring success with a few sore heads in the morning. I'm my many years of organising events like this, the wine pre-order broke new records and the dancing is now available on you tube for the world to see! And lastly the excellent success of our Optimum performance netball tournament. A measure of the progress and success so far! May these grow in size and stature and help demonstrate to the outside world just how capable and amazing our league has become.

So for now... that's it from me! Please take back to your clubs our message of thanks and I hope that we attract more clubs, more teams and more players next year! Hears to next season!

6. Secretary's Report

Change in the rule book

We have made the amendment that players who have been registered to a club and haven't yet played can re-registered to a different team, the £1 fee is applicable. Also we would like photos and signatures supplied from each player for the start of the season, you will receive this information with your registration documents.

Contact and responses

Can we ask that everyone responds to questions they are asked either via email or facebook. The administration of running a successful league can be quite time consuming for the voluntary roles that the committee do, so we ask if everyone can respect that and do their bit to reduce time and effort of having to follow up requests by simply answering and responding to what you have been asked, you might find it a bit of a hassle with the amount of things you have been asked, but believe me, the two minutes it takes you to answer means a lot less work for those doing any organising. So a big thank you to all those people who make our job easier by responding quickly.

7. Treasurers Report

Another super successful year in the NWL Netball League from a financial point of view.

Opening balance £2563.63

Current bank balance at 5/6/17 £4466.88

IN outstanding

Whitwick April Fees	£60.00 cheque to clear
Blaby May Fees	£60.00
Bosworth May Fees	£61.00
Hinckley May Fees	£60.00
TOTAL	£241.00

OUT outstanding

C Tobin umpiring cheque	£30.00
J Patchett umpiring cheque	£30.00
Runners tournament cheque	£30.00
Court hire tournament	£350.00 estimated
Newbridge May Invoice	£270.00
Bouncy castle tournament chq	£115.00
DJ and PA for ball	£150.00
Lunch vouchers tournament	£36.00
Umpire shirts and printing	£200 estimated
Donation to Hospice Hope	£500.00
TOTAL	£1711.00

Estimated closing balance £2996.88

8. Umpires Secretary Report

I'd like to start by thanking the whole of the committee for your support over the last year. I am proud to be part of a hard working bunch of ladies and I appreciate everyone who gives up their time in the running of the league for me to be able to continue to play the sport I love so much.

I'd also like to thank all the umpires for their continued support and congratulate Gemma Rumble on gaining her C award. We have had a great season and never struggled to find umpires each Sunday to cover duty.

May saw the into officiating course going ahead at Newbridge with a few ladies from NWL attending . Suzie and Rachael have both attended a C award course so we wish you good luck on your journey to becoming a qualified umpire. We have had a few mentored umpires this season which is exciting to see for the future of the league.

I am hoping to hear news on another C award course to take place and also the B award which a few of us are hoping to attend .

Apologies if I have missed any other special mentions but again would like to say a big thank you to all umpires who have given up their Sundays to allow us all to play.

Thank you

9. Fixtures Secretary

I'd like to start off by thanking everyone for another successful season. As I'm sure you can appreciate, with 15 teams in the league, it's not always easy to please everyone with fixtures. I can assure you I do try and spread fixtures out evenly, along with match times but this doesn't always go according to plan when fitting in amongst dates that teams have stated they cannot play.

So, this season 123 fixtures have been played in both the cup and league competitions. Out of these, only 2 have been rearranged and only 1 has been forfeited. Not bad I'd say!

I'd also like to thank the umpires, in particular Lynda and Chris, who have sent me the scores every Sunday after the matches have been played(sometimes even before 2pm!) so that I can post results on facebook and work out points from matches and thanks to Suzie who has updated the website league table for me this season.

Division 2 was won in March with Grace Dieu overtaking Hinckley and taking the title by 1 and 1/2 points.

Division 1 saw Blaby Wildcats win the title by an impressive 12 1/2 points from Ashby in second place.

The second year of the cup and plate competition was again successful with 14 teams taking part.

Congratulations to Blaby Wildcats for winning the cup and to Hinckley Hornets for winning the plate competition. I'm sure that next season will be just as successful.

On a personal note, I have decided to step down from my role as fixtures secretary, after 7 years. This is due to promotion at work which means more work and less time for me! When I first took on this role in 2010, there were 4 teams in our league and now as I'm leaving there are 15 and 2 divisions! I've really enjoyed being part of the committee and know that the league will continue to grow and be a success in the years to come.

10. Registration Secretary Report

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their patience at the start of the season whilst I settled into the role of Registrations Secretary. There were some teething problems, but we were up and running ready for the start of the season.

This season, we had 11 Clubs, 15 Teams and 232 Players registered across both Divisions.

Club and Team Registration ran relatively smoothly; thank you to all Clubs for registering new players more than 7 days in advance of their match. There were a couple of issues where players weren't registered properly on MyNet but we managed to solve them. I'd just like to thank Gemma Rumble who is my MyNet guru and helped with the tricky affiliations.

It seems that having Match Sheets already at Newbridge worked well. Teams just had to turn up and fill in the forms on the day. We did have a couple of teams lose points for incomplete Match Sheets. We also had a couple of issues with not enough Match Sheets on the day, as well as issues with things going missing in the store cupboard. We hope to resolve this next season.

England Registration Fees:

As you will know, England Netball called an EGM on 25 March. Sport England's funding to England Netball took a 34% cut from the last four years funding and an £8million cut in participation funding. As a result of these cuts in funding, a number of senior managers were made redundant and England Netball is relocating to Loughborough from London. Leicestershire Netball's Val Kindred's job was on the line and Back to Netball initiatives were at risk of being cut. The EGM was called to propose a £10 increase in membership fees for England Netball.

The increase in fees was approved by a narrow margin. Therefore, England Netball fees for the 2017/2018 season will be £36 (up from £26). Regional Fees will remain the same. So the registration fees for next season will be approximately £45 per person aged 18 and over. Full details will be available from England Netball when affiliations open in August.

Next Season:

Club and Team Registration Forms are ready to be sent to all Clubs which I'll do this week. Please can you return the Club Registration Forms by Monday 19 June. It would be great if you can spread the word to other clubs and teams you know of, as we are always looking to grow the league. Team Registration Forms will be due back once England Netball Affiliations opens in August.

Copies of all registration forms, the constitution, the handbook and any other information you need over the course of the season will be available on the League website. Thank you.

11. Election of Officers

Everyone other than Nat and Angela Winch are standing again this season. Proposed by Rachel Ridgill, seconded by Denise Bales, although Nat will stay on as an ordinary member.

We have one ordinary member wishing to take on the Safeguard Officer role, this is Hayley Homer from Ashby Netball club. Proposed by Chris Tobin, seconded by Lynda Sanders.

We also have four other people wishing to sit on our committee, which is great news!

Nikki English from Swad would like to take on the role of Developmental Officer and Charlotte Locker from Overseal, Gemma Braga from Hinckley Hornettes and Dayna Wright from Measham would all like to come on board as ordinary members. Proposed by Jenni Sawyer, seconded by Hayley Homer.

We still do not have anyone standing for the Fixtures Secretary, so if there is anyone in your club who could do this then please let us know.

12. Suggestions, Ideas and feedback

Can we reduce the 3-4 week gaps (sometimes even longer when you take 3 week Christmas break) between matches that can sometimes happen - not sure if that can easily be resolved?

NF - I have always done my best to spread fixtures and match times played evenly amongst teams. In reality, this never works out with some teams having longer gaps between matches. This is due to fitting in fixtures around dates that teams can play, fitting in cup and plate fixtures and making sure the 2 divisions have an even spread of matches. However, this is no different to other leagues that a lot of us play in.

Not to put either the end of season party/ball and tournament during half term week please

We shall be taking this on board and look at doing this before the half term:

Ball 18th May 2018

Tournament 20th May 2018

Is it possible to use the outdoor courts when the weather is good? Too hot in indoor court these last couple of weeks.

No

It would be good for the team Captains to share contact details – it would be helpful for rearranging matches

Yes, we will get Suzie to send a list of these contact out to the captains via email at the start of the season

It would be nice if team captain's congratulated the opposing team's MVP, much more amenable than just writing a position on the team sheet.

It would be nice but it's up to the team if they want to do that. Also it can be put on Facebook also

Can we look to having either a different venue or possibly 2 venues so we can get more teams involved and playing.

Currently don't need two courts, so will leave as one for now and review once registrations are in.

We need to invest in a scoreboard of some kind

We will buy a flip chart type board, Jenni to source and purchase

Can we invest in a lock up box kept at the venue to keep all the Leagues equipment safe and not ruined by the school kids or who ever has access to it.

Yes Great idea, saves the our stuff going missing, keep it inside the equipment cupboard, lock it with a combination padlock – Jenni can you source and purchase please?

How are things are going with looking into reducing the lower age limit of the league and if this will happen for next season ?

We will discuss this at after the AGM with all the new committee. - UPDATE - We voted on and agreed to lower the limit to 14 years old with the youngsters being assessed by county procedures before they can play.

Going forward would like to see a system put in to rate umpires on the score sheet as we would for team sportmanship . This would help in picking the winner of best umpire .

No, this is concerning on two points, negativity towards the umpires and who are the players to judge, ie style, etc

Going forward for next year's tournament teams that don't provide an umpire have to pay slightly more to cover the expense of bringing in extra umpires.

Yes, will discuss more nearer the time. But it wouldn't be a point we'd advertise.

Team sheets to have a home or away team , helps to determine who wears bibs when kit clashes.

No need, a coin toss will determine

Could we provide a set of spare bibs like Loughborough do to be kept at the hall, ideally white ones?

Yes stored in the box, Jenni to source, Each team should also keep a spare set in their ball bag and bring to each match.

For the committee, when events are going on, form sub group whats app chats to not bother those not involved in it.

Yes Ange to organise groups

Use of toilet/shower facilities at Newbridge
We would have to hire these at a cost.

FEEDBACK

Feedback from Hinckley Hornets

Thought I would just quickly put pen to paper so to speak before the AGM. You sent a form out for ideas or suggestions which I don't have, but it also asked for positive experiences so wanted to say something about that:

- 1) Being new to the league this year, as a club we were made to feel very welcome. Committee members, spectators & players alike all very warm and friendly. In all the years I have been playing, I have to say that the NWL league is one of the nicest I have played in

- 2) We were helped tremendously with our lack of umpire situation which was huge for us because if we had to provide our own umpire as most league insist on, we as a team just wouldn't be able to play. I am sure this flexibility and assistance by the league would help other new teams too as not having an umpire is a sticking point for alot of teams. Thank you Lynda so much for sorting this for us

- 3) Loved the cup / plate competition running alongside the league. Lovely to have something else to aim for as well as the league competition itself. Although the scoring system came back to bite us in the end as winning more matches alone won't guarantee top spot, as a coach this is a great way of ensuring teams put out a full 60 minute performance, and on a personal note, make sure you read and fully understand the scoring system at the beginning of the season and not 2 matches before the end!

- 4) Really good organisation from every committee member. Emails answered straight away which makes life so much easier. Love having all the fixtures out at the beginning of the season as it means you can work your life around netball and fantastic for an oldie like me who can now drag out her netball career a little longer by playing on a sprung surface rather than unforgiving tarmac - a real bonus for the aching knees. This is the first indoor league I have ever played in and the novelty of it has yet to rub off. Never thought I would see the day when I played an entire winter season and kept dry - love it!!!!

Claire Evans – Bosworth Feedback regarding the committee; I only took over from Vikki a few months ago but I am amazed at the hard work and dedication you ladies put into the league. You are amazing, spending hours of your own time making ours an extremely well run, friendly, competitive and organised league. You are all so passionate about netball and it shows - a massive THANK YOU on behalf of the clubs, it really is appreciated.

Nic Hayes bosworth

- like the changes they've made and the more sociable side that has come forward this yr
- well organised
- Like the team sheets
- Like results being posted and prompts for the following week matches
- Like the blogs and effort going into the website

- Like that they're trying the social event - maybe try not for half term tho as a few who would have come couldn't due to family holidays

Blaby

Blaby have really enjoyed playing in this league and it's been a great opportunity for us to allow newer players to get some game time to build confidence.

Other

Positive points – how prompt the league is in uploading results and keeping teams up to date with info via social media pages; invoices come prompt to all treasurers; well organised, prompt start/finish times for matches; just generally a really good atmosphere at matches.

Feedback - we have really enjoyed this season and would like to thank all those involved in running the league and making it great to be part of and play in.

Feedback - Team sheets printed out and at the venue have been a brilliant addition this season, so much easier.

AOB

We will be asking for feedback from the teams who entered the tournament, to see what we could do to improve for next year.

Could each team send in a bit of a blog about this season.

If anyone is looking to do an umpiring course please contact Lynda.

We are aiming for 20 teams for next season.

Kathy Stripp has said if you are 1st affiliated to the Leicestershire county then you can apply for funding and grants for most courses (not C award)

A huge thanks to Chris Mawby for the first aid he delivered on the day, especially to the lady who suffered a bad knock to her face.