**1. Present**

Pat Arnott, Ursula Smith, Chris Lowndes, Sam Oldfield, Julie Tinsley, Jeannette Pointon, Jessica Mountford, Sally Kendrick, Kate O’Leary, Julie Tinsley & Sophie Clarke

**2. Apologies**

Carolyn Owen, Julie Dolman, Sue James & Norma Ashcroft

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Minutes agreed and signed off as a true representation.

**4. Matters Arising**

Table Officials Course -There is a need to hold a table officials course in Staffordshire to support both senior and junior players and teams in local leagues. Pat Arnott is to discuss this with West Midlands and find an appropriate venue for a 2015 course.

**5. Correspondence**

**5.1 Carolyn Owen**

Carolyn has resigned her position as academy U14 development coach. A letter has been written to Carolyn from Pat Arnott to let her know that the door is always open if she wishes to reconsider in the future. The committee would like to thank Carolyn for her work last season.

**5.2 Brogan Griffiths**

Brogan has been selected to represent and captain the England U23 squad for the Indoor Netball World Series, which will be held in Australia. In order for her to compete, she has to fund her own travel and expenses to the sum of approximately £3000. She has kindly requested support in helping her achieve this target – any money that can be given would be appreciated. A website has been set up to help her achieve this feat: [www.gofundme.com/BroEng](http://www.gofundme.com/BroEng). The committee agreed to pay £500 towards funding this great experience.

**5.3 Staffordshire Playing Fields Association**

In the past, the SCNA has been a member of the above association, paying a membership of £15 per annum in order to register. The organisation provides loans of up to £5000 for members to help grassroots sport in Staffordshire. We have been asked if we wish to register again – maybe an opportunity here to gain some funding. We will sign up this year and see what benefits we may receive.

**5.4 Kate O’Leary (Staffordshire NDO)**

The regional children and young people group are looking to develop a “Youth Engagement Support Group” that will be made up of keen young volunteers (aged 12-25) from across the region who will support events, marketing and assist in decisions that directly affect young members. If you know of any individuals who may be interested then please let Kate know.

**5.5 Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-On-Trent (SASSOT)**

Coaches can now register for free on the SASSOT website and be employed for positions across the county sport partnership. Please visit [www.sassotcoaching.org.uk](http://www.sassotcoaching.org.uk) for more information.

**5.6 Shelley Meaden (West Midlands)**

New material circulated regarding the County Plan (see point 7).

New volunteer recruitment page of the West Midlands website for all members to utilise to gain support for any activity. Visit [www.netballwestmidlands.co.uk/volunteer-opportunities/](http://www.netballwestmidlands.co.uk/volunteer-opportunities/).

Dates for diary:

West Midlands AGM: Sunday 18th October 2015

(County Chair’s Forum to follow)

Regional Roadshow: Sunday 1st November 2015

(EN exec team visiting the West Midlands to discuss the new four-year plan)

Goalden Globes 2016: 17th June 2016

**5.7 West Midlands**

Pat has received a “Thank You” card from Team West Midlands for the support of Staffordshire County over the last 12 months.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

No need for a report – nothing to discuss, everything is fine.

**7. County Plan – Update**

Shelley Meaden (nee. Gudgeon) has contacted the County in the hopes of sitting down and discussing an updated County Plan. She has send over some new material regarding roles and responsibilities, and has highlighted new positions that we need to consider. There are also new terms of reference and minimum operating standards that the committee should be aware of and enforce for their meetings. Material will be circulated to all committee members.

**8. Umpiring**

Congratulations to Alex Taylor and Andrea Brockhurst have both passed their C Award umpiring course over the summer – well done. Norma has now purchased umpiring badges so all new umpires will receive these with their certificate.

Several new protocols take effect from September as detailed below:

**8.1 Rules Update**

Over the last few years, the INF has undertaken an international review of the playing rules for the game and the design of the INF Rule Book. This has culminated in the development of rule changes and a new rulebook, which was recently voted on and passed by the member nations at the INF Congress in Sydney. The EN Rules Advisory Panel (RAP) has previously had sight of the new rules and approved these from an England Netball perspective. We are currently awaiting the final rules wording from the INF before we can publish any information. The new rules are due to come into effect internationally on January 1st 2016, however a phased approach will be implemented for EN and local competitions as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Superleague Pre-Season Friendlies | Oct-Dec 2015 |
| International Competition | Jan 2016 |
| Superleague | Feb 2016 |
| Local Leagues | Sept 2016 |
| EN Domestic Competitions | Sept 2016 |

The plan is to introduce the rules to EN competitions, ensuring that we have ample time to properly communicate the new rule changes across the game to players, coaches and officials, while also updating learning materials and upskilling our paid and volunteer workforce.

A joint Coaching and Officiating Rules Forums in the Regions will be arranged from February in order to deliver the new rule changes, discuss the various impacts on the game and to answer anyone’s questions. These will be open to players, coaches and officials from all levels. The forums will be informal with lots of opportunities for questions. EN will then be asking for the help of the Regions to help cascade this information down through the networks by offering a series of County Rules Forums to which we will be happy to share any necessary content to help you with this. Regular communications about the rule changes through various means, including Make the Game Live, direct mail, magazines, twitter and the EN website, will also keep you informed.

Any interim questions should be directed to Don Blacklock, Officiating Manager, at [don.blacklock@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:don.blacklock@englandnetball.co.uk).

The committee agreed that all affiliated teams and schools are given a rulebook once they have been published.

**8.2 England Netball Officiating Fee Structure – 1st Sept 2015**

New fee structure comes into effect from 1st September 2015, which has a direct impact on the fees for all umpire courses and testing. A number of emails have been sent identifying the new structure – all material to be circulated to the committee members. Summary as follows:

Course Fee: £45 (10 people per tutor ONLY)

Written Paper: £10

Fitness Test: £10

Assessment: £45

All to be directed through EN rather than the County.

Committee agree that the umpires who are already of the umpiring pathway (having attended a course in the last two years) will be subsidised by the County if they are Staffordshire affiliates. A charge of £15 for each candidate will be made to EN, the rest will be paid for by the County. Those outside of the County will have to pay the full amount according to the EN directives. Assessors will be paid as per the current County agreed fees with a review to be considered at the next meeting. Kate O’Leary to find out further information.

**8.3 Umpiring Courses**

*Written C-Award Paper Assessment*

Alsager Leisure Centre, Stoke-on-Trent

Dates: Sunday 29th August 2015, 10:30am

**8.4 Umpiring Opportunities**

*Staffordshire University*

C Award umpires required to help support their BUCS entries from September 2015. Payment provided – matches Wednesday afternoon/evening. Please contact Alysha on 07507 867702.

**9. Coaching**

**9.1 UKCC Coaching Courses**

West Midlands UKCC Courses are now available. Please contact the West Midlands office at [westmidlands@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:westmidlands@englandnetball.co.uk) for further details:

*Level 1*

Streetly Academy, South Staffs

Dates: 26th Sept and 17th Oct 2015 (FULL)

Dame Elizabeth, Birmingham

Dates: 3rd and 24th Oct 2015

Fenton Manor, Stoke

Dates: 8th Nov and 13th Dec 2015

Malvern Active, Worcestershire

Dates: 12th Dec 2015 and 23rd Jan 2016

TCAT College, Telford

Dates: 10th Jan and 7th Feb 2016

Moathouse Centre, Coventry

Dates: 7th Feb and 6th Mar 2016

*Level 2*

TBC, Worcestershire

Dates: Oct/Nov 2015

North Birmingham Academy, Birmingham

Dates: 20th & 21st Feb, 19th & 20th Mar, and 3rd Apr 2016

**9.2 Coaching Opportunities**

*Burton & District Netball*

Level 2 coach required to work in partnership with the Burton and District Netball Committee and league to develop opportunities in netball for young people. Please contact Emma Warren to register your interest: [emma.warren@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:emma.warren@south-derbys.gov.uk) / 01283 595873.

Venue: The Pingle School, Swadlincote

Time: Tuesday 5:30-7:00pm

Payment: £15 per hour

*Hednesford Valley High, Cannock*

Level 2 coach required to deliver two sessions to their ‘new to netball’ students at the rate of £25 per session. Contact Hettie Pignott to register your interest at [h.pigott@wlct.org](mailto:h.pigott@wlct.org) / 01543 501516

*Keele University*

The University are seeking to appoint an experienced coach for their development squad for the start of the 2015/16 season. Please contact Emily Robins at [au.netball@keele.ac.uk](mailto:au.netball@keele.ac.uk) / 07500 847711 for more information.

Venue: Keele University

Time: Tuesday evening and/or Sunday afternoon

Start Date: September 2015

Payment: £25-£35 per hour (experience depending)

*Manchester Metropolitan University, Crewe*

The University are seeking to appoint a head coach for their BUCS squads for the start of the 2015/16 season. The positions is paid at £1170-£1404 per annum, dependent on experience and attendance at both training/matches. To gain more information, please contact Gareth Smith at [g.a.smith@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:g.a.smith@mmu.ac.uk).

*Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College*

Level 2 coach required to deliver training sessions and attend matches for their British Colleges entry. Please contact Dave Hardwick at [david.hardwick@stokefc.ac.uk](mailto:david.hardwick@stokefc.ac.uk) for more information.

Venue: SoT Sixth Form, Stoke

Time: Monday 2:30-4:00pm / Wednesday 1:00-4:00pm (approx.)

Start Date: September 2015

Payment: £17 per hour

*Trentham B2N*

Level 1 coach required to deliver casual sessions in the Trentham area. Please contact Kirsty Burns for more information – [kirstyburns1982@gmail.com](mailto:kirstyburns1982@gmail.com) / 07743 863656.

Venue: St Joseph’s College

Time: Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm

Payment: £15 per hour

*University of Wolverhampton, Walsall*

The University are seeking to appoint a head coach for their two BUCS squads for the start of the 2015/16 season. The positions is paid with a job description on the university’s website. To gain more information, please contact James Dale at [james.dale@wlv.ac.uk](mailto:james.dale@wlv.ac.uk).

**10. Schools**

County tournament dates set as follows:

U19 County Tournament: Wednesday 4th November 2015

U14 & U16 County Tournament: Saturday 7th November 2015

Venue TBC – Jeanette to have a scout for appropriate facilities

County High-5 Tournament: Tuesday 2nd February 2016

Regional Schools Tournament: TBC (January 2016)

Need to be aware that age banding has now changed. Material has been circulated by West Midlands and will be forwarded to all committee members.

**11. Academies**

Trials went really well and we have had one training session. Dates have been set and circulated. Training sessions will all be on Sunday afternoons at Stafford Sport College (apart from the U12 who will retain their Tuesday night training). U12 trials are set for 6th October, with the first training on the 20th October 2015.

Opportunities available for coaches to join the County team and we would encourage any Level 1 coach (or working towards) to come and observe/support these sessions.

Request for Vicky Woodman (Shropshire) to be given financial support towards her Level 3 coaching qualification as a thank you for her dedication to the Staffordshire County academy. Agreed to pay £300 from Staffs funds.

Special thanks is given to Julie Tinsley for all her support in ensuring training dates were taken into consideration and fitted around the Sunday league matches for U16/U14 competitions.

**12. Junior SCNA**

The league will start on the 13th September with a new format devised to fall in-line with West Midlands regional competition. We are looking to educate teams/coaches/players/scorers/parents so they are ready for regional matches. Thanks to Julie Tinsley again for all her hard work!

**13. New County Positions**

Newly agreed roles are as follows:

Disciplinary Secretary: TBC (Kate O’Leary to find out what the role entails)

Safeguarding Secretary: Julie Tinsley

Change in language to current positions:

Officiating Officer instead of Umpiring Secretary: Andrea Horsnall

Coaching Officer instead of Coaching Secretary: Pat Arnott

**14. Corporate Games**

Report from Sam Oldfield. The Corporate Games was held at Keele University on the 27th-28th July 2015 and the county provided the structure and workforce to manage the netball competition (both ladies only and mixed). With over 40 teams competing, the weekend was hectic and required strict organisation, and the SCNA netball committee were excellent in ensuring everything ran smoothly.

The Corporate Games Netball Committee comprised of Sam Oldfield (Sport Co-ordinator), Pat Arnott, Ursula Smith and Jeanette Pointon (with additional help from Jess Mountford), being responsible for the overall running of the netball throughout the course of the Games. It was such an excellent event and there has been some fabulous feedback received about the fluidity and ease of the tournament, the support and knowledge provided by the committee, and the professionalism of our umpires. I would like to say a huge “thanks” to everyone for their support, especially the committee members who gave up vast amount of time, the young volunteers from Tean Valley and the 20+ umpires who all got wet and sunburnt throughout the weekend!

The county received £500 for a successful running of the Games, but this is a small amount compared to the income generated! Nonetheless, this is now available for the member of the committee to access for their chosen activities (for club, school, county, individual, etc.).

Due to our positive involvement and organisation, the Corporate Games would like for us to be involved in their next Games, due to be held in Liverpool in 2016. We also have some additional local opportunities to consider; in supporting Stoke-on-Trent’s recognition as the “City of Sport 2016”, there has been some communication about hosting a large sporting festival, with netball a core component of this.

Thanks to Sam Oldfield for her involvement and organisation to ensure the weekend ran smoothly.

**15. Dates of the year’s meetings**

Next meeting: Wednesday 14th October 2015, 7:30pm. Sam Oldfield to send out a doodle poll to confirm dates for January and March.

**16. AOB**

**6.1 Jess Mountford**

County Presentation Evening set for 6th May 2015 at the Moat House. If you want to send any information for that you can do that from now.

**6.2 Julie Tinsley**

Can we please get a list of life members so that we can ensure we have the most up-to-date information.

Please be careful with email addresses and giving this information out – it can be a safeguarding issue.

**6.3 Pat Arnott**

England Netball AGM 19th September 2015 in Warwickshire.

The committee have agreed to give some financial support towards the Make the Game Live Coaching Conference. Agreed that the County will request the money from the region pot under the proviso that any information gained is disseminated to other coaches.

**6.4 Sally Kendrick**

Sally has resigned her post as Stafford League Umpiring Secretary. The league are aware that there is support available at County.

**6.5 Sam Oldfield**

I am currently involved in an England Netball heritage project where I will be conducting some research about the origins of British netball to support the 90-year celebration of England Netball in 2016. As part of my role, I am responsible for the development/maintenance of an archive of any netball material from the West Midlands and North West as a means of preserving the history of these regions. If you have anything that you may want to donate then please contact me at [s.j.oldfield@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:s.j.oldfield@mmu.ac.uk).

I am also involved in developing some “historic re-enactments” of netball matches so if you have any players/teams who may wish to be involved or would like to host such events then please get in touch.

Meeting Closed at 9:00pm