**1. Present**

Pat Arnott, Ursula Smith, Andrea Horsnall, Sam Oliver, Julie Tinsley, Julie Dolman, Jess Mountford, Kate O’Leary, Diane Furnival, Di Hooker, Jeanette Pointon, Steph Campbell (SCL Ladies) & Sam Yearsley (SCL Ladies)

**2. Apologies**

Sally Kendrick, Chris Lowndes & Sue James

**3. Minutes from last AGM**

Signed as a true record

**4. President’s Report**

Report presented by Ursula Smith. Thank you once again to all the wonderful volunteers who make netball in Staffordshire possible for so many people. I hope we never take you for granted! I am sure you will hear about the success of all the different groups in the individual reports so I am concentrating this year on looking forward to the future. We know that some of our England players are going to become full-time professional athletes. Netball on the television has brought our game to the notice of so many more people. We use Facebook, Twitter and other social media to spread the word. Next season sees the implementation of new rules for all playing the seven-a-side game. It is difficult for us as volunteers to keep up with everything and perhaps it is time to start looking at ways at making life a little easier for all our marvellous volunteers by sharing the burden. Between us, we can take Staffordshire forward!

**5. Annual Reports**

**5.1 Treasurers Report**

Report presented at our last meeting by Chris Lowndes. No issues – accounts look healthy. No need to amend costs for next year.

 

**Figure 1: Financial Summary 2015-2016**

 **5.2 Coaching Report**

Report from Pat Arnott. The coaching courses are now organised by England Netball and the county has run one Level 1 course in December at Ormiston New Horizons Academy, Chell Heath. There were 12 coaches from Staffordshire who met the criteria.

Names: Diane Hooker, Anthea Millican, Jessica Mountford, Hannah Newman, Paige Parton, Hannah Speaks, Robyn Spibey, Chloe Williams, Linda Gibson, Layla Allen, Marie Brown and Lindsey Brookes.

Hannah Boost, Lesley Davies and Amy Mountford all achieved their Level 2 coaching award.

We are now looking forward to the Make the Game Live event on the 17th-18th September 2016.

**5.3 Umpiring Report**

Report from Andrea Horsnall. Newly appointed to the role of Umpiring Secretary in September - many thanks to Chris for holding the fort until the position was filled. Well done to everyone for coping with the great loss of Jane Fenton towards the end of last season and the gap this has left in the expertise in the preparation and monitoring of umpires in the county. The County recognises the need to increase the number of umpiring tutors in the county as we currently only have Pat Arnott who is qualified to tutor at the required level. It is the intention of the county to approach West Midlands for funding to qualify other tutors. Angela Nelson, Dianne Glenn and Ann Middleton-Hill have been unanimously considered by the committee as strong candidates for such a role.

Since September 2015 11 new umpires have been awarded C level:-

Jennie Thomas, Samantha Morton, Erica Love, Phillippa Nadin, Robyn Spibey, Kirsty Plant, Whitney Plant, Charlotte Palin, Stacy Hill, Shelley Ann Abdoullah, Jessica Green

The County held two C award umpiring course, ran by Pat Arnott. The next course is on the 27 June and 4 July at St. Peters Academy, Fenton, Stoke.

The new rules forum, as organised by West Midlands was useful and informative but, due to the two levels of communication going on at an administrative level, this ultimately created a mess for our applicants. Shortly before the date of the forum, I was sent an email of all the attendees by West Midlands and instructed that only 10 could attend from each county. I was told to contact umpires and tell them that if they were not on the original list agreed by the county they would not be able to attend. This original list had been agreed by the Chair and submitted in February. A complaint has been registered with West Midlands from the county. As instructed by West Midlands, we have now agreed a date for a Staffordshire rules forum, with accredited tutor, Kim Lumley, leading the workshop. Information has been sent out for all umpires, coaches and club captains to attend on Monday 16 May at Staffordshire University 7 -10 pm. Seating capacity is 230 - to date 75 applicants.

**5.4 Schools Report**

Summary provided by Jeanette Pointon. Staffordshire round of the National Schools was competed in November 2015. The following schools made it through to the West Midlands competition:

***U14***

*Winners:* Newcastle-under-Lyme School

*Runner Up:* King Edward, Litchfield

***U16***

*Winners:* King Edwards, Litchfield

*Runner Up:* St John Fisher (nice to see a new school involved and successful!)

***U19***

*Winners:* Newcastle-under-Lyme College

*Runners Up:* St Joseph’s College

Regional round of the competition was held in January 2016. No Staffordshire school made it through to the final, although Newcastle-under-Lyme College were semi-finalists in the U19 competition. West Midlands regional is so strong so well done to everyone who made it this far.

Staffordshire High Five Tournament was competed in February 2015, with ten schools in attendance. Results were as follows:

*Winners:* Newcastle-under-Lyme School, Newcastle Partnership

*Runner Up:* St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School, Stoke (South) Partnership

**5.5 Excel Academies**

Report from Julie Dolman. Under 16 Academy very high attendance, but issues at the beginning of the session saw some selected players not taking up their place. Therefore, six players from the Under 16 Development Squad moved up to academy to replace these players. Under 14's trained before Christmas in their position selection, with reselected after Christmas based on ability. Under 12 was organised by Pat Arnott - thought this year had gone well.

Nine players were selected to trial at regional level, with the following players selected:-

Hannah Newman (U19), Olivia Moore (U16), Athalia Ibanga (U16), Imogen Faulconbridge (U16), Anke van Gey (U16 Development).

Unfortunately, those players not selected were not given appropriate feedback from the West Midlands, which is a disappointment. Even with several emails, this still has not been rectified - Not great for our athletes! Closed-shop approach from West Midlands is frustrating.

Thanks to our coaches for a successful year.

**5.6 Tournament Report**

Summary provided by Sam Oliver. Queensbury plate was competed on 14th December 2015; Stafford Diamonds were the winners, with runners-up MOTHS. This was the first year Stafford entered so it was a great success for them. Joyce Haynes is to be competed on 9th May 2016 with 10 applicants so far (closing date Friday 6th May).

Many of our committee members were involved in the running of both the Corporate Games (25th-28th June 2015) and City of Stoke Games (18th March 2016). Both events were fantastically organised and structured – thanks to all involved for putting their time and effort into these. As a result, we gained new teams and entries into our local leagues.

**5.7 Staffordshire Junior League Group Report (Junior SCNA)**

Report presented by Ursula Smith. An increase of four teams meant that 35 teams competed in the three age groups in 2015/2016. Julie Tinsley continues to sort out venues and fixtures - thank you! This year, we added a Premier Division in both U14 and U16 age groups. It was felt that the teams representing Staffordshire in the Regional League after Christmas could be better prepared. Again, Julie took on the role of ‘educator’ for all the teams. She managed to encourage parents to score and time keep in the Regional fashion, making it much easier for the teams when they had to do these jobs under more pressure in Walsall. The umpires in this league were also neutral and qualified to at least C Award level. It is good to aim high! Thanks to all the coaches, umpires, results officers as well as the parents and, of course, the players for making it all possible. There is a great range of ability within the league and we hope we cater for all. More matches were provided for our Premier teams, with each team playing each other twice, which was also very helpful and well received.

North Staffs and Newcastle Town represented Staffordshire in the Under 14 West Midlands Regional League, coming 9th and 8th respectively. Fenton Manor and Tean Valley were our Under 16 representatives, finishing in 12th and 14th place. Congratulations to all these teams for their County level success and regional endeavour!

Instead of Young Organisers’ courses this season, we held Young Umpires’ courses. The courses were very well attended and gave their participants much more confidence to umpire and/or officiate at District and County events over the season. Courses were held in Biddulph, Stoke Schools partnership, and Staffordshire Moorlands.

It may be time to include our U11s in our league system but, as ever, we will need to find the necessary manpower and, of course, facility. Three High Festivals were held by Stafford, Tean Valley and Newcastle Town but this is not enough netball for some of our youngsters who play very little outside their clubs.

The Staffordshire County Presentation Evening is being held at the Moat House, Festival Park on Friday, May 6th. Over 300 guests will be celebrating Staffordshire’s netballing successes for 2015/16. It would be lovely if we could celebrate more of our senior successes at this annual event.

**6. Constitution Changes**

No changes to the constitution this year, but we need to consider the number of, and roles provided for, members within the committee.

**7. Election of Officers**

It would be great to gain more information on the job guidelines for each position as we do not have anything formal for new members coming in to each role.

New committee members as below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Member** | **Vote** |
| President | Ursula Smith | Carried |
| Chair | Pat Arnott | Carried |
| Vice-Chair | Sally Kendrick | Carried |
| Secretary | Sam Oliver | Carried |
| Treasurer | Chris Lowndes | Carried |
| Assistant Treasurer | Jessica Mountford | Carried |
| SJLG Co-ordinator | Ursula Smith | Carried |
| Affiliation Secretary | Julie Tinsley | Carried |
| Schools Secretary | Suzanne James | Carried |
| Schools Tournament Rep | Diane Furnival | Nominated: Julie TinsleySeconded: Ursula SmithCarried |
| Umpiring Secretary | Andrea Horsnall | Carried |
| Tournament Secretary | Sam Oliver | Nominated: Ursula SmithSeconded: Jess Mountford |
| Coaching Secretary | Pat Arnott | Carried |
| Publicity Secretaries | Sam YearsleySteph Campbell | Nominated: Pat ArnottSeconded: Ursula SmithCarried |
| Disciplinary Secretary | **New Position** | Enquiries to be madeAdvertise through West Midlands |
| Excel Academy Head Coach/Scout | Julie Dolman | Carried |
| County Safeguarding Officer | Julie Tinsley | Carried |
| Committee Members | Norma AshcroftKate O’Leary (EN)Jeanette PointonCarolyn Owen (NULC)Diane Hooker | CarriedCarriedCarriedCarriedNominated: Julie DolmanSeconded: Julie TinsleyCarried |
| Representative from each Staffordshire League | Sophie Clarke (SoT)Jane Banks & Deb Bagnall (Stafford) | CarriedCarried |

**8. Affiliation Fees for 2016/2017 Season**

Summary provided by Julie Tinsley. Increase in the number of clubs and participants affiliated to the county this year - good to see. Need to continue promoting netball in the future to help develop the game throughout the county.

No changes to county rates this year, with England Netball and West Midlands fees yet to be announced.

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| **AFFILIATION FEES 2016-17 (subject to change)** |
|  | **ENGLAND NETBALL** | **WEST MIDLANDS** | **COUNTY** | **TOTAL** |
| SENIOR |  | 260.00 |  | 30.00 |  | 40.00 |  | 330.00 |
| SENIOR IND. |  | 26.00 |  | 3.00 |  | 4.00 |  | 33.00 |
| Aged 18 & under |  | 163.00 |  | 15.00 |  | 15.00 |  | 193.00 |
| Aged 18 & under |  | 16.30 |  | 1.50 |  | 1.50 |  | 19.30 |
| Aged 14 & under |  | 85.50 |  | 10.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 95.50 |
| Aged 14 & under |  | 8.50 |  | 1.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 9.50 |
| Aged 11 & under |  | 53.00 |  | 5.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 58.00 |
| Aged 11 & under |  | 5.30 |  | 0.50 |  | 0.00 |  | 5.80 |
| SEC/MID |  | 26.50 |  | 0.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 26.50 |
| JUN/INF |  | Free |  | 0.00 |  | 0.00 |  | Free |
| COLLEGE/UNI |  | 175.90 |  | 20.00 |  | 40.20 |  | 236.10 |
| Social & supporting  |  | 13.75 |  | 0.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 13.75 |
| **NB:** County association fee £60.10 Second claim pay Staffordshire county fee unless already paid Staffordshire county fee through another Staffordshire affiliated club |

**9. Date of AGM 2017**

Wednesday 3rd May 2017, 7:30pm at Newcastle College.

Meeting closed at 9:00 pm.