



STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY NETBALL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE 2021 19:00

1. Present

Ursula Smith (President, Tean Valley NC), Lyn Rowe (Chair), Sally Kendrick (Secretary, Stafford NC), Bernie Hancock (Schools Lead), Sam Oliver (, County Officiating Lead, Harriers NC), Rebecca Nott (Stafford & District (YLC Netball League), Lucy Heap (Chasetown NC), Laura Bevans,(Tean Valley NC) Amber, Yvonne Pearson (G-Force NC), Jess Mountford (Treasurer, Fenton Manor NC), Julie Tinsley (Membership Lead and Safeguarding Lead, Newcastle Town NC), Angela Lickorish (Minuting Secretary, Tittensor Ladies), Henrietta Bates.

2. Apologies

Pat Arnott (Vice Chair, North Staffordshire Alsager NT), Gemma Finney (EN Development Officer), Jill Hulme (North Staffs), Julie Dolman (Stafford NC and Pathway Development Lead Coach), Chris Lowdnes, Diane Furnival (Newcastle Town NC), Jean Robinson.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

All agreed minutes are accurate.

4. President's Report

President's Remarks 2020-2021 Ursula Smith

I always feel it's good to reflect on the season at our AGM and, hopefully, next season there will be more to reflect upon!

Netball the world over and here in Staffordshire changed in 2020. It seemed like things would never return to normal but, of course, there is a new normal. It's good to know that friendly matches in the County junior league started yesterday, June 8th and continue on Sunday. Matches in the Stoke league begin on June 21st and matches in the Stafford league

Just like the clubs who are training had to get themselves up and running safely; it's taken lots of hard work to get these leagues organised- finding venues and making sure they are safe to enter and exit, obtaining funding for floodlights, writing Covid risk assessments, sanitising hands, balls and

posts and even wipeable bibs are only part of what has been going on. Thank you to all involved in any way.

We will have to wait and see what June 21st brings but we wish our junior clubs lots of luck as they represent Staffordshire on July 4th in the first West Midland tournament for well over a year!

More than ever, I cannot thank our volunteers enough. Everyone has had to think outside the box to keep netball going for another uncertain season. Whether you are involved in 'real' training again, delivered online training or held the County or clubs together with Zoom meetings; whether you give up one hour a week or many hours as I know some of you do, your contribution is invaluable and, I hope, appreciated by all the netballers in the County.

As we move forward, there is one area which I feel we can easily improve on to make Staffordshire even better. It's our communication, especially around dates, with all our wonderful members. Our volunteers are wonderful, and their time is precious. Can we set dates and stick to them?

I'd like to thank Kate Woods for her hard work in guiding and encouraging Staffordshire through a very challenging time and I'm delighted to welcome Gemma Finney to her home County as NDO- I'm certain this is going to be a special partnership!

As a final note, I reiterate what I finished with at the last AGM. I have loved being president of Staffs County Netball Association-it has been an honour. I've been in the role now for 6 years and I feel it is time that someone else held that honour. Can we elect a new president for next season and can I suggest that the role is time-limited?

Stafford and District League are currently holding Netball Now sessions. G-Force have been playing friendlies with invites to all teams.

As Ursula is resigning from the role of President of Staffordshire County Netball, the Committee have reflected that it should be time limited. Options will be pursued following the meeting. Ursula was thanked for all her support, knowledge and time.

5. Annual Reports

5.1 Treasurer

Treasurer Report -2021, Jess Mountford

Accounts continue to look healthy.

Refunds were given to Performance Pathway athletes when we couldn't complete the program that they had paid for during 2019-20 season. They were refunded the difference between what was received and what had been proposed.

Junior league is fine. Fees received for Junior League matches that were completed before the session was halted

We had paid for the presentation evening venue so this money has been transferred to next year.

Other expenses include:

- A number of resource items for umpiring courses that have been cancelled/ postponed due to COVID-19, an invoice has been raised to England Netball for Into resources that couldn't be used
- There will be no charge for academy trials this year. We should use the county fees received via England Netball affiliations.
- We have left the affiliation fee for 2020 at the 2019 level. I suggest that in 2021, we reduce this to zero. This can then be reviewed when and if netball returns to normal
- £10,000 funding was granted from Sports England to purchase floodlights to enable a return to netball, thanks to Julie Tinsley and Sam Oliver for securing this. £(11.400) purchase of flood lights and £(800) purchase of 20 x wipeable bibs to enable a return to netball

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Income and expenditure as at 31st March 2021

	INCOME		EXPENDITURE
	£		£
Junior League	6,980.00	Junior League	-
Academy	-	Academy	3,420.00
AENA	3,154.31	AENA	1,762.00
Umpire courses and Assessments	135.00	Umpire Courses and assessments	325.00
Schools	-	Schools	-
Other	10,000.00	Other	12,536.57
County Tournament	-	County Tournament	-
Covid-19	-	Covid-19	-
Excess Income over Expenditure			2,225.74
TOTAL	20,269.31	TOTAL	20,269.31

Bank balances as at 31st March 2021

Lloyds bank

	£
Main account	55,411.17
Schools account	82.17
	55,493.34

5.2 Coaching

No report. Dee has stood down from the role. She was thanked for all her work.

5.3 Officiating

Officiating Report 2021, Sam Oliver

Whilst there has been limited netball going on in the county this year due to COVID restrictions, this year has definitely been one of change! The pandemic has enabled England Netball to move forward with some significant changes to their officiating strategy nationally, which has a knock on effect to everyone currently in, or wishing to start, their umpiring journey.

Umpiring courses move away from being organised by the counties and instead are organised on a national level. With a change to an online platform for the theory portion of the course, this means opportunities to get into umpiring are far more open and are not restricted by location. I urge umpires to check the Officiating pages of the England Netball website for further details.

With a new structure in place, umpires MUST now complete the INTO qualification before they can progress to C Award. This is a marked change to the umpiring system and may have a knock on effect to local leagues and their umpiring rules/regulations.

For umpires who are already on/in the umpiring system, England Netball have confirmed that if their course attendance expiry fell in the period between 16th March 2020 and 1st September

2021 then they are eligible to access a 22-month extension to award deadlines. Those who fall outside of that window can still access extension if they feel this is appropriate. We will resume all testing as soon as it is feasible.

New rules are now in place and all local leagues should be competed under these. We have a number of rules books purchased for our umpires across the SoT and Stafford leagues - we hope to get these out to you all ASAP. All umpires should access the videos produced by Gary Burgess and the England Netball team to refresh themselves, as well as understanding further COVID restrictions that are currently in place (hopefully not for very long!).

Finally, in a bid to modernise the role, England Netball have made changes to the title of County Umpiring Secretary...so now welcome to the new role of County Officiating Lead! A new role description has been produced and should come into force for our committee with immediate effect.

I look forward to continuing the work on COL, supported by the great team of assessors, mentors and officials that this county have. Stepping back onto the court with you all very soon will be an honour.

5.4 Schools

School were going to hold a knock out tournament, so 1 out of the 3 or 4 schools would go through to the next round. Unfortunately, because of Covid this didn't take place. Mark Pinder (EN) has subsequently contacted Bernie and advised what will be happening with schools as EN looking to adapt and change to progress netball at school level. He wants to promote schools netball on their social media. High Five tournaments have historically been organised with 2 schools from each area, then reduced to 1.

5.5 Performance Pathway

Performance Pathway Report – 2021, Julie Dolman

Due to the Covid Restrictions activities have been at a minimal. But due to the restrictions being lifted, plans are afoot for the Pathway for the up and coming season.

There has been a new coach appointed to assist in the under 15 development sessions, bringing the pathway coaching team up to 8 and 2 new coaches join the coaching team on a new initiative, of a coaches mentor scheme. Opening up the pathway to more newly qualified coaches, wanting to gain more experience.

The focus this season will be; supporting the athletes to regain their confidence and enjoyment in the sport.

Also to support the development of the current coaches within the Pathway, through courses and interaction with Super League Coaches.

England Netball have re engaged with the county, after a time of noticeable absence, setting up zoom sessions and new courses to establish links and promote their plans going forward. As this develops updates will be feed back to the committee.

Trials are to commence on Saturday 12th June and Sunday 13th June for the season 2021/22
Training sessions will be in September.

Plans are in. New coach for Under 15 and 2 new coaches for a new initiative for coaches.
Trials begin 12/13 June. Training in September. 70 for under 13s and 80 under 15s.
Slightly down on usual years but good considering the circumstances. Groups of around
20/24 to minimise numbers as per CV management. Ran a Zoom session for anyone who
applied so they could see the coaches and see what the standards were to ease the
transition. The Under 13s was much better than expected given they had missed so much
netball. Big differences in the under 15s.

5.6 Tournaments

The role is now remain vacant. Sam Oliver is happy to support but doesn't physically have
the time. The committee thanked her for her commitment and support.

5.7 Junior SCNA

Junior League started at St Joe's last night. Very positive start. Ursula and Sarah are
arranging the Sunday participation side. Year 7 until Year 8 to 7 a side from High Five
was a massive leap. Some players haven't even played enough 7 a side/full netball to
know how to play certain positions. Coaches need to be mindful of this

6. Constitution Changes

Need to change the role of "Secretaries" to "Lead" as per England Netball cultural shift.

7. Election of Officers

Need to consider how to recruit for lead roles for the Committee Tournament, Coaching
Leads and President. Need to disseminate down at club level and through social media.
Coaching Lead can be a joint role as can the Tournaments role. The latter does not need
to be undertaken by a netballer as it is primarily an organisational role.

Henrietta Bates, Lucy Heap, Yvonne Pearson are welcomed as new committee members.

8. Membership 2020-21 and 2021-2022

No increase in EN fees. Agreed to waive Staffordshire Netball fees from 2021/22.

9. Date of next AGM

11 May 2022 at 7.00pm. Call to notice by 11 April 2022.

10. Election of Officers

POSITION	MEMBER	VOTE
PRESIDENT	VACANT	
VICE-PRESIDENT	-	
CHAIR	LYN ROWE	CARRIED
VICE CHAIR	PAT ARNOTT	CARRIED
SECRETARY	SALLY KENDRICK	CARRIED
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	ANGELA LICKORISH	CARRIED
TREASURER	JESS MOUNTFORD	CARRIED
ASSISTANT TREASURER	VACANT	CARRIED
STAFFORDSHIRE JUNIOR LEAGUE CO-ORDINATORS	URSULA SMITH JULIE TINSLEY	CARRIED
MEMBERSHIP LEAD	JULIE TINSLEY	CARRIED
SCHOOL TOURNAMENT & TOURNAMENT REP	BERNIE HANCOCK	CARRIED
COUNTY OFFICIATING LEAD	SAM OLIVER	CARRIED
TOURNAMENT LEAD	VACANT	
COUNTY COACHING LEAD	VACANT	
PUBLICITY LEAD	LYN ROWE	CARRIED
DISCIPLINARY LEAD	PETER OWEN	CARRIED
ACADEMY HEAD COACH	JULIE DOLMAN	CARRIED
LEAD COVID OFFICER		
COVID OFFICER PERFORMANCE PATHWAY	MEL JACKLIN	CARRIED
COVID OFFICER JUNIOR LEAGUE	STUART SINGLETON ANDREA ADAMS	CARRIED CARRIED
COVID OFFICER TOURNAMENTS		
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	JULIE TINSLEY	CARRIED

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	GEMMA FINNEY	CARRIED
	DIANE FURNIVAL	CARRIED
	SHONA THOMPSON	CARRIED
	LAURA BEVANS	CARRIED
	JILL HULME	CARRIED
	MOLLY LINES	CARRIED
	YVONNE PEARSON	CARRIED
	HENRIETTA BATES	CARRIED
	LUCY HEAP	CARRIED

11. Any other Business

Pathway coaching session will be put on website to enable coaches to observe should they wish to.

Floodlights – St Joe’s would like a contract drawn up regarding storage. Bernie will ask a parent at Newcastle Town whether he could look over the draft. Insurance will be dependent on who takes responsibility for them, although it is likely to be Staffordshire Netball.