

KENT NETBALL ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12th SEPTEMBER 2019
RAINHAM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Attendance

Kent Netball Committee

Roger Perham – President (RP)
Dawn Cox – County Secretary (DC), Ashford NL
Marlene Wander – Chairman (MW)
Keeley Smith – Officiating (KSM)
Anita Hollman – Performance, Telstars (AH)
Dot Bryan – Membership Secretary (DB)
Katie Southam- Coaching (KSO)
David Roche – Competitions (DR)
Jenny Fissenden - Media (JF)

Phill Harvey (PH) England netball Development Officer

Life Members

Joan Mills (JM)
Cathy Hickey (CH)

Other

KCSNL D1

Sharon Summerfield – Comets
Bill Steingass – Eclipse
Judith Dennis – KCNC
Sam Pembroke – Steel
Anita Hollman – Telstars
Rachael Jarman - Wealden

KCSNL D2

P Titchner – Hornets
Kate Willoughby – Istead Rise
Megan Fox – Macklins
Nina Harrison-Bell – Raiders
Marlene Wander – Sabina
Lisa Draper - Saracens

Emily St.John – England Netball

Steve Gough
M Hamil
Lisa Fox
Lauren Costelloe
Xavier Ayre (Whiteoak League)
Janine Mills (Whiteoak League)
Hazel Skinner (Medway League)
Stephanie Brivio (Medway League)
Esther Barron

Charlotte Hope
Ellie Sharp
Kath Lambert
Lisa Rackstraw
Alice Black
Chris Garland (Sittingbourne League)
Natalie Harris (Tonbridge League)
Barbara Taylor (Tonbridge League)
Chantelle Cuxton

1. Apologies

Caroline Duggan
Helen telfer
Keeley Smith
Natalie Beckett
Rebecca Stannard
Michelle Ray

Amoy Clarke
Teres Steingass
Anita Carter
Ann West
Jemma Cullen
Janet Bracey
Tracy Burton

Norma Roche
Liz Roche
Sue Moon
Eliza Hamilton

2. President – Roger Perham

Mr Perham welcomed those in attendance. He said that the attendance at Kent committee meetings was good but that the county always wanted “new blood” to provide a succession of members. The commitment was one Thursday a month (11 times a year).

3. Agree the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 2018

Proposed: David Roche
Seconded: Rachael Jarman
RP signed as true record.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Appointment of Tellers

Not required.

6. Chairman – Marlene Wander (MW)

Report from Marlene Wander:

“Kent would like to firstly congratulate England on the hosting of the World Championship in Liverpool this year. It was a great showcase and display of a well-organised event. Kent had a very busy year supporting our membership especially with competition and officiating, as well as in the summer registration and the frustration from parents especially with the new Engage system. New Clubs are being created and we work with the support of our Development Officer to ensure they gain their accreditations. We recognised all the hard work being delivered by our volunteers and continue to give recognitions at our Annual Meetings, with the winners also being submitted to the Region.

Umpiring

Kent continue to have successes and have gained 2 new B awards, 18 new C award umpires and 24 new umpires with the ‘Into Officiating’ qualification. Although only 2 umpires have progressed to B award this year, Kent has seen another umpire pass their B pre-assessment and there are 7 more being mentored. There does seem to be a reluctance in getting C award umpires to want to step up to the next level.

All learners preparing for their C award and B award practical assessment are paired up with a Kent mentor. The number of Kent mentors has increased by 4 this year enabling more to be available as the demand increases. There are currently 22 learners being mentored for their C award and 6 waiting to be allocated a mentor.

A big thanks to Keeley and all the assessors who are mentoring and helping these learners to take the next step. Kent continues to give deduction for courses to our membership.

Coaching

Our Coaching Secretary for driving a challenging portfolio. However, despite the birth of her son, she was able to set up the coach’s database which currently stands at 74 and signposted members to EN workshops

Katie has some great ideas on how she can help develop our coaches in the County but need you as members to share any initiatives with her. The long term plan is for Kent to host a coaching conference, so the more coaches on her database will mean that this could be considered.

Schools

A total of 53

U19 27

U16 32

U14 38

U13 37

U12 36

We had a finals day for u19, u16 and u14 with Highworth and Benenden u16, Sevenoaks and Bromley High u14, and Tonbridge and Judd u19 who all went to represent Kent in the Regional round of the competition. Well done to these schools.

The invitation tournament is supported well as it gives the appropriate level of competition for schools who probably would not have entered any hosted by Kent due to the standard.

Tournament

Kent hosted a fast net tournament in May which was received well. It seems that players want something different from their normal league competition to have some fun and play outside the box.

There has been request for mixed events and Kent has hosted back to netball and walking netball events which has been welcomed by participants.

Competition

Competition has been fast and furious and we have had many new champions coming forward. Congratulations to all these new clubs gaining promotion to the next level of competition in our County Senior League and to Crystal Palace gaining a place in the Regional League.

Affiliated Leagues Representative.

As he said not knowing what to expect but full of passion to progress netball within Kent. Agree It has been a slow start in the Affiliated leagues position trying to support the leagues as they were used to contacting Dawn for everything.

As part of the County's governance we are ensuring that the right contacts and supports are in place for our member and Rhys will be working to with leagues to simplify the process and will be touring the leagues this coming season.

Kent Academy Programme

Kent Academy continue to delivery successes and a large number of Kent Athletes were selected into the franchise hubs spread wide across the county and region. Many of which have represented their respective franchises at the National Performance League for u21s, U19s. A total of 22 (36 in total – 3 squads) We should be proud of our Kent young athletes.

Kent Netball adopted the new age groupings from September 2018 to prepare for the new England structure which started this September, this meant new age groups trials for u13s & u15s.

The potential demonstrated by the athletes certainly bodes well for a very bright future for us all. The coaches are keen to work hard together to prepare the selected athletes for this new pathway.

Development

*Phil Harvey, **Development Officer** has submitted his report with detailed figures and targets.*

He continues to work hard for England Netball building partnerships in the County to create opportunities for leagues, clubs and individual.

He has been instrumental in driving projects to support

- *Back to Netball*
- *Walking netball competitions/leagues (anniversary celebrations)*
- *Supporting clubs for CAPS*
- *Driving CPD and supporting opportunities for UKCC courses.*

Netball Development Officer

Please take time to read Development Officers' report. It is filled with lots of stats evidencing delivery this year and how Kent is benchmark against the other Counties in the region.

It also tabled the number of projects being delivered locally in our London boroughs and leafy Kent.

- *Partnerships Update & Other News*
- *WI: continued work on the Walking Netball project in partnership with the Women's Institute with mixed success*
- *Team-Up initiative – Kent offer / London offer*
- *Some targeted boroughs/districts are keen to develop netball – e.g. Dover, Greenwich*
- *Kent Sport are an enormous help to me and the other NGB staff*
- *London Sport remain a valuable partner*
- *Good relationship maintained with Medway Sport*

It just leaves me to give some really heart felt thank you to all the current committee members who have worked so hard this year, but thankfully has agreed to remain in post.

Special thanks to Dawn for all the extra support she gives the committee and our members. Kent is pleased that we were able to fill the vacancies and now have a full quota of volunteers to administer the new season."

7. Development Reports

Emily St. John (ESJ) - Partnership manager and Phill Harvey's line manager

ESJ extended a big thank you to everyone for their patience using the new ENgagae system which had 75,000 members thus far. She advised that EN had doubled the size of the customer service team to deal with problems and added that members could also talk to PH or call the regional office with any queries.

Bee Netball – the new programme for u11s has been launched. It has been put together by child development experts and she encouraged clubs to sign up to it. ESJ also thanked all locals who helped to run netball activities over the summer.

Phill Harvey (PH)

PH stated that there were just under 1,000 new people taking part in the sport in our area and he thanked the volunteers who ran “exit routes” for those who were just starting in the sport. He said that Walking Netball was the biggest growing programme but observed that there were geographical gaps in provision.

Stephanie Brivio observed that welfare should be more of a “hot topic” and was noticeably absent from reports. PH explained that there was a robust structure of safeguarding in the county. *DC to add as an agenda point for future annual meetings.*

8. Committee member reports

None

9. Treasurer – Helen Telfer (HT not present)

Questions raised about the accounts:

JM asked whether there was any update on the spending of the large funds promised last year. It was explained that the NK College ‘one court arrangement’ was almost ready. KN made a contribution to the cost of the adjustments and will also financially assist clubs to use it for the first year. Assistance may be extended. This was hoped to be a ‘showcase court’ and a centrepiece for the county to be used by Premier, Regional and county teams with seating etc.

MW advised that KN had expanded the grants offer to give the ability for individuals to access funding, with the “Individual Bursary”

RP added that KN had made money available to leagues but that it had not received many applications.

JM asked whether KN might run county tournaments again along the lines of the affiliated leagues’ competitions of old? MW – those tournaments provided an opportunity for scouting of players for county squad. U18, and other age groups. Always looking at how to encourage participation. RP explained that despite its best efforts, the county was struggling to find a format that would encourage teams to come forward. The membership was simply not responding. It was noted that Folkestone had set up their own inter-leagues’ tournament which was popular and was won by Sittingbourne. *RD said that he had some ideas which he would discuss CD whose role it was to organise the tournament.*

DR observed that there had been a large balance in the accounts for some time and that it was incumbent on the county to be a little more generous where possible

The accounts were proposed by DR and seconded by JM.

All in favour.

10. Kent Archive Group – Joan Mills

JM explained that the archives were stored at NK College which was where netball started. The whole of the archive was moved from the BOU to the centre of NK College where a painted space was available to be devoted to netball. She mentioned the Kent Netball reunion taking place the following Wednesday at 2pm and all were welcome. Failing that, visitors were welcome on other Wednesdays to see the netball archive. JM said that

She was also involved in the England Netball archive which held a fascinating exhibition for delegates at the World Cup. The EN archive can be found at: <https://www.ournetballhistory.org.uk/>

JM requested papers, books, letters or memorabilia not just for Kent Netball but also for the wider netball in Kent. Contact jmills@kentnetball.co.uk

11. Notification of Registration Fees 2019/20

No increase was made this year.

DC to amend the fees schedule to reflect the new system of individual membership for 2020.

12. Appointment of auditor

Chris Thompson is Auditor at present. HT would like to continue with her services unless anyone wanted to suggest an alternative. RP asked the assembled to accept Chris Thompson as auditor.

Accepted, without objection.

13. Constitution

No proposals for amendments to the constitution received.

13a. County Leagues

Item added to agenda to take advantage of communication opportunity with all teams present. *DC to add agenda point for this next year.*

Kent County Senior Netball League

RP - advised that he would not be available as the Competition Referee on weeks 1 & 3. DC to take on.

JM – will be away two league dates and so the results from end October and early November wouldn't go onto the league tables until 10/11/19 at the earliest.

MW – reminded the participants to use the new Game management form

RP - Division 1 to be venue for testing of B award.

Kent County Junior Netball League

DR – mentioned that they had initiated an U16 development league for B teams of squads (thought to be mainly U15s and those who didn't qualify at u16) for the coming season, further expanding opportunities in the county.

14. Election of Committee Members

Position	Name	Status
President	Roger Perham	Standing again
Chairman	Marlene Wander	Standing again
Vice Chairman	Michelle Ray	Standing again
Treasurer	Helen Telfer	Standing again
Secretary	Dawn Cox	Standing again
Membership Secretary	Dot Bryan	Standing again
Academies Manager	Anita Hollman	Standing again
Affiliated Leagues	Rhys David	Standing again
Coaching	Katie Southam	Standing again
Competition	David Roche	Standing again
Clubs' tournaments	Caroline Duggan	Standing again
Marketing	Jenny Fissenden	Standing again
Schools	Vacant	
Umpiring	Keeley Smith	Standing again
Member	Rebecca Stannard	Standing again
Member – Lead Mentor	Caroline Duggan	Standing again
Safeguarding	Natalie Beckett	Standing again

Positions vacant

Schools	Vacant	
---------	--------	--

Nominations received

None		
------	--	--

Those standing again were unopposed.

RP invited nominations from the floor. No nominations were forthcoming.

15. Presentation of awards

MW advised that the county had lost two Life Members in the past year. Marge Millar passed away in February 2019 and also Ann Bisset passed away in August 2019.

There were a number of nominations worthy of recognition this year and so all nominees had been invited to the evening.

a) The Joyce Crust Salver for, “Services to Kent Netball”

Was not able to be presented on the evening due to the absence of the recipient, but was presented by Roger Perham at the Medway AGM on 14/10/19

Awarded to Michelle Ray

*“2009 Kent Netball committee – Affiliated Leagues Representative.
2010 until present Kent Netball committee – Vice Chair.
Umpiring coordinator, mentor, assessor.*

L&SE communications representative in recent years as well.”

b) The Needham Rider Salver for, “Services to Kent Youth Netball” was awarded to Amoy Clarke.

“My daughter has been with Telstars Netball Club for 4 years. Amoy has been by her side the whole way from day one. She is absolutely dedicated to all the girls and you can see how much they all simply adore her. Her commitment to her sport and the girls shines through and this is all in her own time as a volunteer. Amoy is constructive, honest, fair with the best sense of humour that the girls need when the going gets tough. Such a positive role model for these girls (quote from my daughter, Amoy is on of her favourite humans EVER) and I truly hope she is honoured with the recognition she so deserves.”

The recipient was not present to collect the award and it was taken by Anita Hollman.

c) The Marge Millar Award for, “Organisations promoting the development of Netball in Kent” was awarded to Canterbury Back to Netball

“Canterbury Back to Netball Club has had a reasonable following for a number of years now, but this has always been tempered by the Club having to use numerous venues throughout the course of the year. Last Year Christ Church Sport offered Canterbury Back to Netball a permanent home for their weekly training sessions. This has provided them stability from which to build and grow. Average numbers have been steadily growing.

Liliane Widdows has run the Back to Netball sessions for 14 years, in a variety of venues across Canterbury, and in that time she has had almost 3000 ladies come and play. They now have a Back to Netball team who play in local leagues. The session is also used for ladies who wish to learn how to coach or umpire. Since moving to Christ Church Sport the numbers have stabilised, and the sessions continue to attract new members.”

Other nominees:

- Instead Rise NC Back to Netball
- Marden NC
- Telstars NC

The recipient was not present to collect the award and it was taken by Dawn Cox.

d) The Kent Netball Young Netballer Award was awarded to Ally Housley

“For her continued hard work and commitment despite previous rejections and for working to achieve and reach her full potential, which culminated in her efforts being rewarded this year by her gaining a well deserved place in the EN u19 Rose Academy and since recently being selected to tour New Zealand & Australia in June 2019 with the EN Roses u19 squad.”

The recipient was not present to collect the award and it was taken by Anita Hollman.

e) The Kent Netball Coach Award was awarded to Teresa Steingass

“Junior Head coach @ Eclipse Netball Club, Head coach of 2nd team (senior county league), Assistant coach to first team (regional/prem), Kent academy coach.

Level 3 coach. Over the last three years, she has gone above and beyond to achieve her level 3 coaching award. This is something that she has been able to put into her own coaching practice, evident in the success of many of her teams and individual players over the years. She has all the qualities that you would like to see in a coach, dedicated to her sport and players, week in and out, the many hours spent at North West Kent and Rainham, always putting her players first and getting the best from the individuals. She helps to mentor other coaches within her club and this can be seen within the growing club of Eclipse with new coaches coming through to help coach or support with the younger teams. Outside of the club setting, she works within the Kent community, helping to develop future talent being involved within the Kent county coaching set up for a number of years, helping to assist with head coaches and being head coach herself within the academy and performance levels.”

Other nominees:

- Anita Hollman
- Wendy Modeste

The recipient was not present to collect the award and it was taken by Bill Steingass.

f) The Kent Netball, Netball Teacher Award was awarded to Kath Lambert

"Mrs Lambert coaches netball with year 6 during her lunchtime at St Stephen's Catholic Primary, Welling as we don't play netball in our PE lessons. She has been doing this for the last 7 years. She has taught us the key netball skills and her passion for the game has encouraged many of us to take up netball outside of school. Mrs Lambert has taught us to play and coached us every week, helping us to win the district competition and representing Bexley in the London Youth Games...(this is a time least the third time she has taken her primary school team to the prestigious event. This year, she has been giving us extra coaching sessions on the school playground, during lunchtimes to help us improve.....we have worked on our footwork, shooting techniques, marking, sportsmanship, teamwork, time keeping and scoring. Last month Mrs Lambert took us to the London Youth Games (as borough winners) and we got to the final, losing by just one goal, we came home with silver medals....2nd out of the 32 borough teams! More importantly, we all love netball and everyone in our school wants to be part of the netball team...hopefully something we can continue when we move to secondary. Thank you Mrs Lambert."

The recipient was present to collect the award.

g) Kent Netball Officials Award was awarded to Bill Steingass

"I believe this person should be considered for official of the year as often this role is under appreciated and can on some occasions be quite stressful. Bill has been scoring for the premier league 2 division for a number of seasons with Telstars Netball club, travelling to home and away games to help as scorer number 1. Throughout the season he has also helped to score within the senior county league. He also recently completed officiating for an NPL tournament, in which he helped to assist with both scorer 1 and 2 duties. Most recently, being team scorer for Eclipse netball club during the Prem play offs, a highly stressful weekend, with extremely close games, liaising with umpires, calculating shooting averages and being main scorer in several of these games. Scorers are pivotal to the running of these teams and overall successes of the club. Bill will also now help to train and coach newer scorers needed for the newly promoted eclipse team."

Other nominees:

- Tracy Burton
- Phill Harvey

h) The Kent Netball Team of the Year Award was awarded to Eclipse First Team

"The first team at Eclipse netball club, should be considered for team of the year due to an extremely successful season. The stats speak for themselves when in two seasons, having played 60 games, there have been 55 wins, 1 draw and 4 losses, with two of those being within 1 goal. After a well thought season in London and south east Regional 1, they qualified for the Premier League play offs, in which they had an undefeated weekend with 4 wins from 4, knocking out 2 teams from the premier League and securing a place in Premier League 3 for next season. In addition to these regional and national successes, within Kent, in the North West Kent league, the first team at Eclipse have managed to achieve the double, with an undefeated season and winning the 1st league once again."

Other nominees:

- Kings Rochester Walking Netball Team
- The Judd U19 Team

The award was taken by Dot Bryan.

i) The Kent Netball Young Volunteer Award was awarded to Charlene Cole

"Charlene has consistently attended and helped at KS3 Netball practice often leading the sessions. She has also given up her free time to umpire at various competitions and fixtures. She supports our Year 9 leaders by helping them to develop their umpiring and coaching skills."

The award was taken and later posted to the nominator at Townley Grammar School by Dawn Cox.

j) Kent County Senior Netball League

Division 1 – Crystal Palace

The recipient was not present to collect the award, but the trophy was taken by Rhys David to pass on.

Division 2 – Steel

The recipient was present to collect the award.

Presentations of the Kent County Junior League trophies had been made previously

k) Life Membership

None.

16. Future issues

Request for a rules' forum in the Whiteaok League to bridge the gap between IO and C. KS had trialled something similar in NWK League where they had invited umpires and coaches etc. RD will get in contact with leagues about this.

Request for schools to have easier access to IO courses or equivalent.

The meeting ended at 20:50