

# KENT NETBALL

Welcome to the latest edition of the Kent Netball newsletter. In this edition you will find the latest news around school and club competition, talent development and training.

If you would like any information on netball in Kent please contact Natalie Beckett, Kent Netball Development Officer, on [natalie.beckett@kent.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.beckett@kent.gov.uk). Or visit our website [www.kentnetball.co.uk](http://www.kentnetball.co.uk)

## CLUB COMPETITION UPDATE

### Premier & Regional League round up



Comets, winners of the 2007/08 Regional League, took part in the Premier League Play-Offs in May where they were competing with other Regional Champions for a place in Premier 2. AquilaTel were also involved after finishing in the bottom 3 of Premier 2. Despite some great play from both teams, they were unsuccessful and will be both competing in the Regional League this season.

The play-offs for a place in this season's L&SE Regional League took place on 7<sup>th</sup> June. County champions from the Region, along with the bottom 2 Regional clubs, KCNC and Cobham, competed for the one place available. The standard of play from all clubs involved was very high and KCNC were unable to retain their position in the League. Unfortunately Kent champions Aquila were unable to take part. They will both be competing in the County Senior League this season, hoping to return to Regional again next year.

### Kent County League

The first three weeks of the Senior County League has seen some great netball and mixed results. Last year's winners Aquila are sitting in 7<sup>th</sup> place, while new-comers Lionhearts are topping the table with goal difference advantage over 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Comets. With a further 4 fixtures to play it promises to be an exciting season. The junior league is also underway and this year welcomes a new club, Hornets. So far the matches have shown some very good netball and we hope to publish full results soon

Full fixtures are available along with the most up to date results and league tables on the 'Competition' page of our website [www.kentnetball.co.uk](http://www.kentnetball.co.uk).

## SCHOOL COMPETITION

### County Schools Tournament

The Kent Schools tournaments for this season are underway with the U19 tournament taking place at Rainham Netball Centre on 8<sup>th</sup> October. The tournament was well attended with 45 schools taking part. The day saw some great play from all those entered, particularly in the semi finals which saw Newstead Wood up against Colfes, and Benenden, last year's winners, against Kings Canterbury. Both semis were hard fought matches resulting in a final between Benenden and Colfes, with Benenden running out eventual winners.



Winners, Benenden



Runners Up, Colfes

The U16 Tournament took place on 13<sup>th</sup> November with 56 schools in attendance. Once again the netball was impressive with some hotly contested matches throughout the rounds. Last year's top two, Colfes and Simon Langton, were unable to make it through to the knockout stages. Whilst the team from Gravesend Grammar emerged as new contenders and made it all the way to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Play-off, which they won in a close game against Tunbridge Wells Grammar. Top spot went to Bromley High who played consistently throughout the day and went on to beat Kings School Canterbury in the final.



Winners, Bromley High

Benenden, Colfes, Bromley and Kings will now go on to represent Kent in the London & Southeast Regional tournament. Good luck to all involved.

Thanks to all the schools for taking part, and to our Competition Manager volunteers Laura, Jo, Pete, Trevor and Alistair for helping the days run smoothly.

**\* The U14 Tournament takes place on 4th December \***



## TALENT DEVELOPMENT

### Regional Talent Coach

The L&SE Region have recently appointed **Emma Blackmore** as a Regional Talent Coach. This role has been funded through the Sport England Club and Coach Fund. Emma's role will focus on the working with the athletes and coaches within our talent pathway structures and will help support and enhance the current programmes that run in the Region. Emma is a graduate from Bath University and has previously worked with the Team Bath NTL squad, as well as coaching with Regional, club and school squads. We look forward to working with her in the future.

### New NTL Coach

This season Brunel Hurricanes have announced that **Anita Hollman** will take over as the Brunel NTL Head coach. Anita has a great deal of experience working with young talent and is currently Kent's County Academy Coach, as well as Head Coach for AquilaTel and Telstars. Anita is thrilled about her appointment saying; "This time last year I was spectator at the NTL games and dreamt of being involved. I've always felt that our region has a lot of talented players and I can't wait for the challenges that lie ahead". Anita also thanked Kent Netball for all their support over the years. We wish her every success in her new role.



### Scotland National Coach

Another Kent coach enjoying new success this season is **Denise Holland** who has been appointed the National Coach for Scotland and Head Coach of the new Superleague side, Glasgow Wildcats. Denise has previously been a County Squad Coach and Selector for Kent Netball, as well as the Head Coach for the L&SE RTDP and superleague team Brunel Hurricanes. She still coaches with Kent junior club, CFX. Congratulations to Denise, the best of luck in Glasgow!



### Welsh Coach

Another notable achievement is **Hazel Strudwick's** appointment as the Head Coach for the Welsh U21 squad. Hazel is a former County Squad Coach, and is currently a county Selector and Talent Scout, as well as Head Coach for Premier League side Wealden. Hazel has also previously worked with the U19 England squad and Brunel Hurricanes Youth, and spent time coaching in Dubai. She took up the Welsh post last year and will be taking the squad to the World Youth Championships in August 2009.

### County Academies

Trials for Kent's netball Academies took place in September, with over 180 girls attending 3 week training sessions at Assessment Centres. 97 girls were selected for Final Trials which took place on 21<sup>st</sup> September at Rainham Netball Centre. At Final Trials 32 girls were selected for the County Academy and 40 selected for the Satellite Academy. Congratulations to all girls selected, and many thanks to all the coaches and selectors who took part in the trial process.

### Regional Talent Development Programme (RTDP)

RTDP trials took place on 11<sup>th</sup> October, and 9 girls from the Kent Academy programme were selected into the L&SE RTDP:

- Hannah Button
- Francesca Desmond
- Hannah Matthews
- Beth Rowan
- Rebecca Steingass
- Gina Deave
- Charlotte Hall
- Lyndsey Piper
- Melissa Steingass

### NTL – Brunel Hurricanes Talent Squad

Trials for this year's Brunel Talent Squad took place on 5<sup>th</sup> October at the Leigh Technology College in Dartford. Over 50 athletes from across the Region trialled for the 20 squad places, and the following Kent girls were selected:

- Natasha Bond
- Emma Chivers
- Kim Piper
- Sally Tibbitts
- Channel Charlery
- Courtney Cummins
- Beth Rowan
- Sophie Ware

You can read about the squad and their progress on the Brunel website [www.Brunelhurricanes.co.uk](http://www.Brunelhurricanes.co.uk)

A mention also goes to Debbie Ubochi (Telstars NC and Bullers Wood School) who has been selected for the Mavericks NTL squad.

Kent has an abundance of talented young players, who are a credit to our youth programmes, junior clubs and coaches. **Congratulations to all the girls on their selection to the RTDP and NTL squads.**

### National Success

The May newsletter reported on the National Screening that took place in March and our congratulations went to **Debbie Ubochi** and **Channel Charlery** who earned a place in the England Talent Programme. And more recently **Amanda Hicking**, from Bexley, was selected for the Scotland U21 squad. Their selection is a great achievement and Kent Netball wish them every success in their netball careers!!



## TRAINING & EDUCATION

### London Skills Active Coaching Bursaries

Are you thinking about becoming a qualified netball coach? Are you a qualified coach who would like to further your skills? Then did you know that bursaries are currently available that assist with two thirds of the cost of a UKCC coaching course? To qualify for the bursary, you must:

- Be currently engaged as a coach or intend to start coaching in a sports club environment in London
- Cover 33% of the course fee yourself
- Demonstrate delivery of 20 or more hours of quality coaching in London once qualified



If you are interested in applying for a bursary then visit

[www.skillsactive.com/coachingbursary](http://www.skillsactive.com/coachingbursary)

### UKCC Tutor / Assessor Training

Are you a Level 2 coach and looking to become a tutor? England Netball are offering a training programme that will enable you to join their workforce to deliver the UKCC Level 1 & 2 qualifications. These courses will provide you with a nationally recognised tutor and/or assessor transferable qualification.

For more information on becoming a tutor or assessor contact the Regional office on 01895 266202 or [londonandsoutheast@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:londonandsoutheast@englandnetball.co.uk)

## CAPS

### Congratulations to AquilaTel and Raiders who have just been awarded their Bronze CAPS!!!

England Netball CAPS is a whole club development scheme, and by working through the scheme it will assist your netball club provide the best quality environment for your members. The scheme is directly linked to Sport England's Clubmark. CAPS accredited clubs are recognised as safe, effective and child friendly. Current CAPS clubs in Kent are:

- Breakaways
- Comets
- Hornets
- Hurricanes
- KCNC
- MNM
- Sabina
- Telstars
- OBA
- Wealden



If your club is interested in gaining CAPS accreditation or you require further information please contact [natalie.beckett@kent.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.beckett@kent.gov.uk) Register now and you could be eligible for a Bursary towards becoming accredited.

### ENGLAND NETBALL YOUNG LEADERS CAMP

This summer England Netball held a Young Leaders Camp at Bradfield College. The camp was a collaboration with English Gymnastics, UK Athletics and the Rugby Football Union and was for young coaches, umpires and volunteers aged 16-19 years.



The camp programme provided a whole variety of learning opportunities around leadership skills, the media, sports psychology and team building, as well as covering a whole breadth of netball from learning about coaching and umpiring, high five, running a club and much more. A full report on the camp can be found in the latest edition of the Netball magazine.

### KENT SCHOOL GAMES

This summer the finals of the Kent School Games were held in Canterbury. Schools across Kent took part in local heats and area competitions to make it through to Finals Day. A team from each of the 13 School Sport Partnerships took part in the netball finals. The pool stages and finals were very closely fought but the overall winners were the team from the



Antony Roper school in Eynsford. A big well done to all players, team managers and umpires who took part on the day.

### Dates for your Diary

04 Dec	U14 School Tournament
06 Dec	U19 National Club Finals
21 Dec	Brunel Hurricanes home game
21 Dec	Brunel Talent squad home game
17 Jan	C Award Umpire Course
18 Jan	Coaching Workshop with Sue Hawkins
25 Jan	L&SE Regional School Tournament
01 Feb	Beginner Umpire Course