

KENT NETBALL ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
08 SEPTEMBER 2022
ZOOM

Attendance

Kent Netball Management Committee

Dawn Cox – County Secretary (DC), Ashford NL
Dot Bryan – Membership Secretary (DB)
Jenny Fissenden – Communication Secretary (JF)
Keeley Smith – Chairperson (KSM)
Marlene Wander – President (MW)
Natalie Beckett – Performance Lead, Welfare (NB)
Alexandra Carter – Member (AC)
Caroline Duggan – Officiating Lead (CD)
Helen telfer – Treasurer (HT)
Hannah Hyams – Schools Secretary (HH)
Justine McAvoy – Communication Secretary

Rachael Purchase (RPU) Kent and South East London Netball Development Officer

Life Members

Ann West (AW)
Cathy Hickey (CH)
Sue Moon (SM) – Comets
Eliza Hamilton

Other

KCSNL D1

KCNC – Justine McAvoy
Steel – Sam Pembroke
Wealden – Tracey Jones
Eclipse – Dot Bryan
Hornets – Paula Titchner
Istead Rise – Natalie Beckett

KCSNL D2

Macklins – Phill Harvey
Sabina – Marlene Wander
Saracens – Toni Hunt
Comets – Steve Govey
Raiders – Maureen Gordon
Beacons – Sam Holder

Anita Hollman - Telstars
Valerie Keable – NWK NL
Chantal Smith – KCNC, Medway NL
Natalie Northover – TTE
Charlotte Clarke - Telstars
Annie Ponulak - Telstars
Jackie Gerety – Wealden

A minute's silence was held to recognise the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II that was announced an hour earlier.

1. Apologies

Joan Mills – Life Member
Janet Bracey – Life Member
Jenny Clarke – Life Member
Linda Rayner - King's Rochester Walking Netball
Michelle Ray – Vice-Chair (MR)
Katie Southam – Coaching Secretary (KSO)
Liz Roche – KCNC (LR)
Kelechi Ambrose

2. President – Marlene Wander (MW)

This is my first year as your President and would like to thank you all for the support and well wishes you have shared this year and hope I have and will continue to do the County justice.

Stepping down from Chairman, I hoped I have left a legacy and the County in good shape to perform well into the future.

It is nice to see you all in person as it has been sometime since some of us have met up.

It has been a difficult year again for the sport. Less dealing with the initial shock of coming out of the pandemic and more focussing on the sport's recovery, ensuring we get things right now to protect the sport and its position for the future.

With having a full year of fixtures both locally and nationally it was good to see, and it seems like a breath of fresh air has entered our sport again.

In some respect it was still a challenging year as members were still being cautious and some took the time to reflect and prioritise family, and I know some clubs really struggled. As a County I would propose that our committee continue to look at how we can support our members in this difficult financial climate especially around facilities.

It has never been clearer how much netball contributes to our well-being. Whether culturally, financially or in the community and we must also be aware of individuals mindset and how we collaborate going forward.

Congratulations to all the participants in our County's various competitions and well done on the various promotions into regional and national leagues.

I would like to thank the new committee of last year who all gives so much, and worked so hard to support our members, and wish all who are remaining or may be coming on board the best of luck and look forward to working with you all.

3. Agree the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 2021

Proposed: Natalie Beckett

Seconded: Dorothy Bryan

4. Matters Arising

There had been a request for more detail in accounts which was actioned.

5. Appointment of Tellers and voting arrangements

Helen Telfer volunteered to be a Teller if the need arose.

6. Chairman – Keeley Smith (KSM)

This was my first year as Kent Netball Chair and I have found that the time has passed quickly. Firstly, I would like to thank all the Kent Committee members for their continued work and support throughout the 2021-2022 season.

The Kent Management Committee saw several new members join the team with Justine McAvoy taking on the role of Communications Secretary, Alex Carter joining us as a Committee Member and Emma Baker taking on the role of the Youth Representative. Caroline Duggan has also re-joined the committee initially as a committee member but kindly stepped in as the County Officiating Lead in December. I am pleased that they are all looking to remain in their positions for another year. After many years in the role of the Competition Secretary, David Roche has made the decision to step down. I would like to thank David for all his work over the years on the Kent Committee and for his attendance in Regional on behalf of Kent. Kent Netball is always looking for volunteers to come on board and I am pleased that we have two volunteers looking to join the team. If anyone is thinking of joining the Kent Committee, please contact us.

The Netball Development Officer (NDO) is a paid post within England Netball and Phill Harvey, Kent's NDO made the decision to resign from England Netball in November. Phill have been a good asset to Kent Netball by being an effective conduit in advising us of the work that England Netball is doing and allowing us to balance the objectives of the County. However, when Phill left the post in November, it was not until Easter that the vacancy was advertised. Late June, Rachael Purchase was announced as Kent's new NDO.

This season, the Kent County Senior netball League returned without modified rules. Telstars Netball Club won the league and subsequently went to Regional play offs. They were successful and thus promoted to the Regional League division 2. Well done Telstars.

Kent Netball is always looking to encourage it's members to develop whether this is as a player, a coach or an official. According to England Netball's ENgage, Kent has 22 new Level 1 and 5 new Level 2 coaches. Congratulations to all those that achieved their coaching qualification this season.

Officiating has also seen much success with 70 learners passing their IO award, 31 learners passing their C award and 7 learners achieving their B award qualification. This is down to the commitment of the Kent mentors and assessors. Thank you all for your dedication in supporting our new officials.

I would also like to express my thanks to the Kent Leagues that offer umpire development and allow the County to assess on their matches.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge all the hard work that all the Netball volunteers do within the Kent County. Regardless of your role or how much time you are able to commit, it is the tireless work of the volunteers that makes netball in Kent so successful.

7. Development Reports

Rachael Purchase advised that she was focused on restarting netball programmes.

8. Annual reports

The reports were adopted without objection.

9. Accounts

PH asked what the £10,000 in the miscellaneous section stood for. HT explained that it was a transfer between accounts to cover the shortfall in membership income.

10. Notification of Registration Fees 2022/23

The registration fees were shared.

11. Appointment of auditor

HT recommended Kevin McNamara as county auditor for 2022-23. There were no objections.

12. Election

The following committee members remain in post for their second year:

- Chairperson – Keeley Smith
- Vice-Chairperson – Michelle Ray
- Treasurer – Helen Telfer
- Coaching Secretary – Katie Southam
- Communication Secretary – Justine McAvoy
- Membership Secretary – Dot Bryan
- Performance Lead – Natalie Beckett
- Schools Secretary – Hannah Hyams
- Member – Jenny Fissenden

The following existing committee members were elected unanimously in new roles (unless otherwise specified) as follows:

- Alex Carter – Registered Member Leagues Secretary (had previously stood as Member 2021-22)
- Caroline Duggan – Officiating Lead (had previously stood as co-opted into the role during 2021-22)
- Emma Baker – Youth Representative ((had previously stood as co-opted into the role during 2021-22)

Jenny Fissenden – Hospitality ((had previously stood as co-opted into the role during 2021-22)

The following were newly voted onto the KNMC:

Liz Roche – Competition Secretary with responsibility for KCJNL

Natalie Northwood - Competition Secretary with responsibility for KCJNL

The following elected positions remained vacant:

Member #1

Member #2

Member #3

KSM asked for volunteers at any time during the year.

The appointed roles were announced as follows:

Resolution Lead - Dawn Cox

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) Officer - Michelle Ray

Safeguarding Officer - Natalie Beckett

13. Break

No break was taken.

14. Safeguarding

No matters to report.

15. County Leagues/Competition update.

DC thanked the KCSNL teams for providing the venues for the coming season. A few more were still to come.

DC thanked Joan Mills for continuing with compiling the league tables and managing registrations.

CD elaborated on the new Game Management category of cautions, DC to send out the forms.

HT explained about new support for member clubs. The facility hire subsidy that came into effect on 01/09. Premier, Regional and County teams may claim 2 hours, anything over £55 per hour for court hire. Payments at year end and end of season. Process to be communicated in due course.

16. Presentations

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

Presented by: Marlene Wander

Recipient: Chantal Smith

Chantal takes on the mammoth task of organising all of the umpiring allocations for KCNC, covering 15 teams across 4 leagues and various age groups, alongside any additional tournaments/competitions the club enter throughout the season. When sourcing umpires, Chantal always ensures this is done in a timely manner, liaising with various coaches to ensure they are aware who their umpires are and any changes. Alongside this role within the club, Chantal also

coaches and umpires for the Club, taking on one of the senior teams and often umpiring for the 1st or 2nd team when a B award is needed. All of this on top of getting her 3 children to various netball training/match commitments. The club would not run as efficiently without the support of Chantal on the committee ensuring that all matches have the appropriate level of umpire ready to go, a role she has undertaken for multiple years now.

Roles: KCNC Officiating Manager, KCNC Senior Coach, KCNC Umpire

Also nominated: Justine McAvoy

Enhancing the social media accounts so more people are aware of it. Improving the awareness within the county of what is going on. Growing followers. Supporting clubs and leagues with advertising opportunities. Creating a safe place where people can share their successful news within the county. Encouraging more people to get involved on social media

A gift was presented in lieu of a trophy, as the trophy could not be located in time for the evening. The gift was taken by Chantal Smith.

b) The Needham Rider Salver for, “Services to Kent Youth Netball”

Presented by: Keeley Smith (KSM)

Recipient: Medway Junior Netball League

The Junior League is made up of four divisions with currently 27 teams spread across them, allowing girls from school year 4 to year 11 inclusive, play competitive netball. The bottom division being specifically for those younger girls, school year 6 and below, and those newer to playing netball to develop their netball skills as a team. the Junior League also enables those trainee umpires to get their umpiring experience in a controlled environment as part of the Medway Netball League umpiring pathway. Many of those trainee umpires coming from those playing or having played in the Junior League.

A gift was presented in lieu of a trophy, as the trophy could not be located in time for the evening. The gift was taken by Chantal Smith.

c) The Kent Netball Young Netballer Award

Presented by: Natalie Beckett

Recipient: Kelechi Ambrose

Natalie described Kelechi’s achievements that included England selection and a recent international. A crystal trophy awarded and taken by Charlotte Clarke.

d) The Kent Netball Team of the Year Award

Presented by: Helen Telfer

Recipient: Telstars’ County League team

KCNC Division 1 winners, attended Regional league play offs and qualified for L&SE Division 2.

Taken by Annie Poneulak

Also nominated:

Kings Rochester Walking Netball

Kings Rochester Walking Netball was founded nearly 5 years ago. Our representative team (which has hardly changed over the years) has an age range from 53-72 and has won every WN tournament we have entered (7 in total!). We have taken part in tournaments at Crystal Palace, in Eastbourne, Ashford, Canterbury, our own 2 tournaments at King'ss Rochester and more recently at the first tournament run by Surrey Storm. The team is always encouraging the other members of the group with their netball skills and we have all supported each other throughout the pandemic, even when we weren't able to play. We really enjoy meeting other WN teams and always aim to spread the friendship and camaraderie that WN encourages.

CFX U14

Kent county winners / national finalists C FX under 14s have only been together since September 2021 . A team made from four year 8s and five year 9s . They have went all season as a team undefeated in the Kent county league winning 14 from 14 games . Coming runners up in the regional tournament to make it to nationals :-). Because of the age difference these girls do not train together or play in the same team for any of the Sevenoaks leagues . Coming together as a team and winning the Kent county league and making nationals was such an amazing accomplishment for these girls . It would be nice to see them recognised for all their hard work over the season.

Trophy taken by Charlotte Clarke

e) Kent County Senior Netball League

Presented by: Dawn Cox

DIVISION 1	P	GF	GA	POINTS	G.AVE	POS N
TELSTARS	1 0	49 0	32 4	50	1.219	1
STEEL	1 0	52 4	43 0	41	1.219	2
ECLIPSE	1 0	50 6	42 0	36	1.205	3
WEALDEN	1 0	46 7	47 0	31	0.994	4
KCNC	1 0	33 2	49 6	19	0.669	5
RAIDERS	1 0	30 4	44 0	0	0.691	6

DIVISION 2	P	GF	GA	POINTS	G.AVE	POS N
ISTEAD	1 0	42 4	31 7	40	1.338	1*
HORNETS	1 0	44 0	32 8	40	1.341	2*
SABINA	1 0	35 6	35 9	34	0.992	3
COMETS	1 0	39 3	38 1	33	1.031	4
MACKLINS	1 0	19 2	35 1	5	0.547	5
SARACENS	1 0	25 1	32 0	-3	0.784	6

D1 trophy was taken by Anita Hollman

D2 Taken by Natalie Beckett

f) **Life Membership**

A small crystal paperweight was presented as Life Membership to Val Keable, for her many years of devotion to netball in the county.

Meeting ended 20:24