



Lowestoft Netball League

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday 10th March 2015 at 7pm
Lowestoft Town Football Club**

Present: Sharon Boyd– Chair
Karen Oakley – Vice Chair
Chantelle Savage - Secretary
Denise Hall – Treasurer
Melanie Sandford- Cancellations
Lyn Elvin – Umpire Rep
Nicola Caswell-Fixtures Secretary

1. **Welcome from Chairman**

Sharon welcomes everyone and thanked them for making an effort to attend. She started off discussing the Summer and Winter League and acknowledged that both had been successful. However there have been ongoing issues with unsatisfactory courts and lights at East Point Academy. This was an item on the agenda and this issue will be discussed later on in the minutes. She mentioned the loss of two teams from the league due to umpiring issues but on a positive note there has been lots of enquiries from ladies looking to return back to Netball. She spoke about the upcoming umpires meeting next week with Sophie Pike and thanked Lyn Elvin for arranging this. She hoped many umpires would attend and also extended the invite to players who would like to expand their knowledge of the rules.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies as all teams were present. All teams had at least four members present.

3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in February 2014 and matters arising from the minutes**

The minutes of the Annual General meeting held in 2014 were agreed.

4. Reports:

Treasurer

Year End Accounts
2014/2015

	CREDIT	DEBIT
INCOME		
B/F 2013/14	1,592.85	
Summer League Fees	690.00	
Winter League Fees	1,190.00	
Rule Books	30.00	
Total	3,502.85	
EXPENDITURE		
Trophies		0.00
Website		85.00
Winter Court Hire		360.00
Summer Court Hire		612.00
Rule Books /score cards		0.00
Course / Meetings		180.00
AGM		200.00
	Total	1,437.00
	Balance	2,065.85
Carried Forward	2,065.85	
Approximately £250.00 still to come out for court fees		

Fixtures, Cancellations and Publicity Secretary –

All fixtures were played. No issues.

Umpiring Secretary

The umpiring has run smoothly this year thanks to umpires being willing to cover others when needed.

An umpire meeting is arranged next Tuesday and Sophie Pike from Norfolk will be attending to answer any rule queries. During the year the following umpires who have passed awards -

Beginners -

- **Libby Gates** (Cliff Park Hawks)
- **Emma Spary** (Beccles Bluebirds)

Also this evening Helen Cavill (M&H K-os) is being assessed for her C award.

Scorers – Scorer notes are available on the website after a suggestion at last years AGM. Please take the time to read them.

Website

If there is anything you think we are missing from the website please let me know, but this should be the first point of contact for any queries. All teams contact details, umpires and even your own affiliation numbers are available there (except Cliff Park who belong to Norfolk United), along with Karen and my mobile numbers if needed for cancellation.

We also have a Facebook group where tournaments are advertised or cancellations posted etc - so please send a request to join.

5. **Election of Committe**

The committee would like to welcome Ellen McAvoy (Potters B) and Sian Jeffries (Potters B) who will be sharing the role of treasurer.

6. **Issues with facilities at EPA.**

The committee have been investigating the possibility of moving the league to a different venue due to continued lack of acceptable facilities from EPA. Unfortunately at present the committee has been unable to find a suitable venue but are still in talks with outside agencies such as Waveney district council with the view to move the league if it is viable. WDC are very positive about being able to support the Netball league with finding a new floodlight area; however this process will take some time and therefore does not solve the problem in the short term. Lynn Grove was possibility as they have two outdoor floodlit courts and one indoor court. However total cost of hiring Lynn Grove was double per night the amount of what we are paying at EPA. The committee also realised that this venue was a lot further for some teams to travel e.g. Sole Bay and Beccles meaning that it could potentially stop them from playing. The committee has continually been in talks with EPA and Nuffield regarding the issues. They now have three quotes to fix the lights and will therefore be awarding a contract to company to fix the lights asap (hopefully).

The idea of split sites was suggested but this could cause issues with regards to allocating umpires etc.

7. **Scorers**

Please see notes at end. Scorers are to stand on the left hand side of the court to ensure that they are not distracted by other scorers. Other important points included calling the score loudly so teams can hear and to make their way to the nearest umpire when time is about to run out.

8. **Back to Netball**

The committee are looking to run a back to Netball day one weekend during the summer holidays. The committee asked teams whether they would be interested in helping out at this event. Only four people expressed an interest in helping. The committee hopes that others will come forward nearer the time.

9. **Playing up/down**

Sharon put forward the suggestion of being able to play down from an A team to a B team. For example if Sirens had an A and B team the suggestion is that every A team player can play down for their B team once per season and only one A team player can play down during a game. The idea was put forward to teams but they felt this would be an unfair advantage. This suggestion was dismissed.

10. **Team Umpires**

Melanie brought up the issue regarding teams having to have an umpire if they want to play in the league. She acknowledged that this was difficult for some teams despite making an effort to do so. This could be down to players getting trained up and then leaving or because some people despite their best efforts are just not cut out to be umpires. Therefore she suggested that if there is more than one team per club e.g. Potters, Cliff Park etc that they don't necessarily have to have an umpire per team and that the two teams could share the clubs umpires. However teams without umpires must still make an effort to get someone trained up on their team.

11. **Summer League**

Teams voted again to play the summer league as a round robin. However it was felt by a lot of teams that the handicap system of 2 points was not enough for the stronger teams. Therefore the committee will change the handicap from 2 points to 3 points. This will be reviewed again at the end of the summer league. Additional points can be gained by getting half the winning score, within 10 goals and within 5.

Matches will be 12 minutes per quarter. It is important that umpires are strict with the two minute break in between quarters. It was suggested that scorers could time the breaks. When the umpire calls that there is only 30 seconds left of the break teams should then make their way back on court. If there are players missing when the break is up then the game will start without them and they will be unable to come back on court until a goal is scored.

12. **Summer and Winter League results and presentation of prizes including fair player.**

Denise informed the meeting of the winners of the Summer and Winter Leagues:

Summer 2014

Winners	Goldmark
Runners up	Cliff Park Eagles
Fair Player	Phoebe Millican (K-os)

Winter 2014/15

Division 1 Winners	Cliff Park Eagles
Division 1 Runners up	Cliff Park Kestrels
Fair Player	Shannon Gray (Cliff Park)

Division 2 Winners	Potters B
Division 2 Runners up	Sole Bay
Fair Players	Rhianna Mansfield (Cliff Park)

Congratulations were given to the above teams. Prizes were presented.

13 **The Linda Crisp Umpire Award and Umpire of the year.**

Teams were asked to vote on the night who they felt deserved this award. Teams were only allowed to submit one name per team and could not vote for their own team umpires.

All the votes were counted and Kerri Stephenson won the Linda Crisp Umpire Award for the third year in a row.

Wendy Moore and Sammy Harewood presented Kerri with flowers and the award.

14. **AOB**

Babs from Cliff Park informed teams about a Junior Netball tournament at Aylsham in April for the following age groups U16/U14/U13/U12.

Babs is also looking to organise a beginner umpire course at Lynn Grove for anyone that is interested. Details will be published via the website and Facebook.

Notes for Scorers

All scoring and timing equipment will be supplied by the games Umpires.

Scorers **must neither** coach or encourage a team during the game.

Both Scorers will stand and work together, at a place designated by the Umpires.

This could be either on the sideline or goal-line dependent upon health & safety for everybody courtside.

Scorers will start and stop time on the command of the Umpires.

Both Scorers will record each goal scored on the issued Score Pad. Either one Scorer will "call" the score after each goal per quarter (swapping over) or each scorer will call the score when a goal is scored at the chosen end. This should be agreed prior to the commencement of the game.

Scorers need to call the score loud enough so that both teams and umpires can hear it.

When the time is near, a scorer needs to make their way to where the nearest umpire is in order that the umpire can whistle at the point time is up. **Please Do Not Just Shout Time As The Umpire May Not Hear It.** If play continues a goal could be scored that might affect the result.

On the final whistle ensure that the Umpires are given the score card in order for the Final Score to be written on the score card. The Umpire will record their name on the Score Card as the officiating Umpire.