



Lowestoft Netball League

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 7pm
The Zest Rooms, Potters Leisure Resort.**

Present Karen Oakley – Vice Chair
Chantelle Gallagher - Secretary
Sian Jefferies – Treasurer
Melanie Sanford- Cancellations
Lyn Elvin – Umpire Secretary
Nicola Caswell-Fixtures Secretary

1. Welcome from Vice Chair

Karen welcomed everyone to the 2016 netball AGM and thanked them all for attending.

She thanked all the committee members for the hard work that they have put in behind the scenes this year. She thanked them for giving up their own time to ensure that the league runs as smoothly as possible and also for their dedication to resolving the venue/facility issues at the beginning of the winter season. Karen then went on to discuss both the summer and winter leagues.

She acknowledged that the summer league went well last year and that there were no major problems. She then moved on to the winter league and spoke about the issues at East Point Academy such as the lights and playing surface which had been an ongoing problem for well over a year. An Emergency General Meeting was called for safety reasons as the committee has a duty of care to protect their players. She thanked the league/teams for pulling together to ensure the success of the new venues whether it be travelling, scoring, umpiring or just playing. She offered special thanks to Sharon and Lyn who spent endless hours on the phones as well as visiting numerous facilities to try and find a suitable venue to enable the league to continue. Karen then moved on to discuss the restructuring of the committee.

The committee members looked at their roles this year and there has been a reshuffle on the committee with people taking on more roles and sadly some retiring from others. She spoke of Ellen (joint treasurer) who has decided to take a small break from her job share with Sian as treasurer due to her busy private schedule. Karen thanked her for her time and input to the committee, however she hopes to maybe return later in the year and take over as secretary from Chantelle. Karen then informed the league that Lyn Elvin had decided to take a break from umpiring secretary and recognised what a fantastic job she has done over the years. Karen expressed how Lyn will be sadly missed in this role but was grateful that she has decided to stay on the committee in another role.

2 **Apologies for Absence**

Sharon Boyd sent her apologies. All teams had at least four members present. Nicola Caswell also sent her apologies as she was unable to make the meeting.

3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on and matters arising from the minutes**

The minutes of the Annual General meeting held March 2015 were agreed.

4. **Reports:**

Treasurer – In brief the league has made a loss on previous years due to increased cost in venue hire, as agreed at the EGM. Summer fees have had to go up to cover the costs of the venues. This also means that the Winter League fees will also go up to probably £150 per team to cover the extra costs. The league will allow teams to make this in 2 instalments.

Netball League Accounts 15/16

	£	£
Income	CR	DB
Cash & Bank B/F	2075.85	
League fees Summer	715.00	
League fees Winter	975.00	
Umpire Course	497.00	
	<hr/>	
	2187.00	
Expenditure		
Courts - Nuffield		941.00
Courts - Lynn Grove		475.00
Courts - Beccles		400.00
Course - tutor/hall/resources		483.71
Umpire Meeting		25.00
AGM-League Winners		170.00
Donation		100.00
Website		85.00
Committee expenses		100.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4262.85	2779.71
Balance		1483.14
C/F		
Bank		1453.14
Cash		30.00

150.00	still to be invoiced	Lynn Grove
400.00	still to be invoiced	Beccles

Fixtures, Cancellations and Publicity Secretary – All fixtures were played. No real issues apart from the one windy night where matches had to be rescheduled for Health and Safety reasons

Umpiring Secretary

There have been no problems at all this year mainly due to everyone being flexible and covering for each other at short notice if required. Lyn thanked the umpires for their continued commitment.

Umpires who have passed awards this year are -

Sammy Harewood (Sirens) Beginners

Gemma Wallace (Sirens) C Award

A successful Beginners course was held at the end of last year, organised by Lyn and Babs and from this Lyn now has a list of those waiting to be mentored.

Two more people are now qualified mentors which should mean we'll be able to mentor more umpires. Well done to Karen Oakley & Kerri Stephenson.

Lyn spoke about the new rules and that there are workshops being rolled out across the county to specified tutors however there is not one due in the East Region until April this year. Once this has taken place Lyn will be booking a workshop for everyone to attend. This includes players as it is good to hear and understand the rules as well as umpires. The league has also agreed to supply all practising umpires with a new rule book and these will be distributed once she has them.

5. **Teams View on current venue for fixtures.**

Everyone was happy with the venues currently being used. A team member did ask whether we could return to EPA but the committee explained that EPA still have not repaired the lights and the playing surface has still not been attended too. A vote was taken and all members were happy to continue to play at Lynn Grove and Beccles Sports Centre. Lyn explained that while it would be hot playing indoors at Beccles throughout the summer the league needs to keep playing there to continue with the booking for winter.

6 **Score Cards**

Karen explained the new design of the scorecards. A few things have been removed and some new things have been added. See separate attachment.

7 **Match Results**

Karen reminded teams that results of matches must go to Nicky Caswell by 10pm to ensure she meets the deadline to get the results into the local press. It is the responsibility of the home team to do this. All details can be found on the back of the new score cards. Chantelle asked teams whether they still looked for the results in the local paper or whether they now look at them on the local website. Teams said they still wanted the results to go into the Lowestoft Journal as they still looked at them and also for publicity. A suggestion was made as to whether the results could go into the

Great Yarmouth Mercury or the Beccles and Bungay paper? Babs to send Gt Yarmouth details to Nicky and Nicky to find out about Beccles & Bungay.

8. **Proxy Vote**

Lyn asked members of the league whether they would be happy for the Lowestoft Rep to vote and make decisions on their behalf at the Norfolk AGM's. All teams were happy for her to do this. All teams signed the proxy vote form.

9. **Team Representation at Committee Meetings**

The committee suggested that at every committee meeting there should be a representative from each team to relay back the information to their team members. This is being proposed as some teams do not receive the relevant information from their secretaries. The teams were all happy with this. Each team had to nominate a person to attend the meetings however the committee said it does not have to be the same person every time. Cliff park will have only one team representative at the committee meetings instead of four. This person will be responsible for relaying all the information back to all of the cliff park teams. Details were taken of the nominated team representatives.

10/ **Summer League – Schedule, Handicap, Points & times.**

11 Match duration through the summer league will continue as 4 x 10 minutes due to the later starts of the matches to allow for the extra distance being travelled to venues. The handicap system that was used last summer was score + handicap depending on where the team finished in the Winter season, and in steps of 3. Teams were asked if they were happy to continue to use this system and all agreed. As there will be 15 teams playing in the summer league a round robin is only viable if matches are played during the school holidays due to lack of courts/floodlights. Several teams voiced concerns that they would be unable to play during this time. Therefore the 15 teams will be split into two leagues depending on where they finished in the Winter League. The first match will be on Tuesday 12th April.

12. **Summer League 2015 results and presentation.**

Karen/Lyn informed the meeting of the winners of the Summer League:

Winners – Goldmark

Runners Up –Kestrels

Fair Player -Peta Belson (Potters A)

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

Winter League 2015/16 results and presentation.

Karen/Lyn informed the meeting of the winners of the Winter League:

Div 1

Winners – Eagles

Runners Up Kestrels

Fair Player- Shannon Gray (Eagles)

Div 2

Winners - Beccles Bluebirds

Runners Up- Falcons

Fair Player -Maisie King (Venture)

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

13. **The Linda Crisp Umpire Award and Fair Play Awards.**

This year the Linda Crisp Umpire Award was voted for by umpires only before the AGM.

The Winner was Lyn Elvin. Congratulations was given to Lyn and Wendy Moore and Sammy Harewood presented Lyn with flowers and the award.

14. **The Committee Contribution to Netball Award.**

This year the committee decided to award Babs and Steve Rogers from Cliff Park the contribution to Netball award for their contribution and commitment to netball not only in our league but in the area too. Please see Karen's acknowledgment, appendix A.

15. **Election of Committee**

Kerri Stephenson has taken on the role as Umpiring Secretary. We welcome her to the committee. The committee also asked whether anyone else would like to join the committee in any capacity but no one wished to do so.

16. **AOB**

There was no other business.

Contribution to Netball Award

This award is an award to someone for their contribution and commitment to netball not only in our league but in the area too.

This year the committee has decided that the recipients of this award is to Babs and Steve.

Over the years Babs has been a fantastic skilful player who would often give any player difficulty trying to defend her running circles round them. Trust me I know I've been one of those players. She played shooter in her netball career and was one of the best shooters in the league hardly ever missing and giving her defence a difficult task of stopping her and her team as they were the most successful team in the first division for many years she has had a lot do do with netball including coaching Lowestoft Ladies in the Super league on a Sunday for which I was privileged to be a part of as well of some others here to.

Babs and Steve have a very mature and professional manner towards the game. Their commitment towards netball has been outstanding and knowing their good nature they are willing to help and assist anyone if they can. This has included Umpiring, scoring, paying of umpires, ensuring her team is on time ready to take to court and encourages their team to play with great enthusiasm, professionalism and most of all good sportsmanship within the spirit of the game. They often have teams in different venues but always try to ensure that one of them is there to support the youngsters.

They are a pair of dedicated individuals and committed in developing, coaching and mentoring youngsters to their full potential and to a very high standard.

What some of you may not know is that they run a netball club on a Wednesday night for not only her girls but welcome any new players or anyone who would like to train. And having now had my daughter involved I watch this couple at work and they are fantastic coaches and mentors. They are friendly, approachable and make all youngsters feel at ease. The best part for me is watching Steve doing netball drills and demonstrating them. I never knew your ball skills were so good and seeing how light he is on his feet he could audition for swan lake.

Babs and Steve are a couple who are so deserving of this award for which I'm sure you will all agree. So please give them a round of applause while they come and receive their gift.