



# *Lowestoft Netball League*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 7pm  
The Zest Rooms, Potters Leisure Resort.

**Present** Sharon Boyd- Chair  
Karen Oakley – Vice Chair, Cancellations Secretary & Norfolk Rep  
Chantelle Gallagher - Secretary  
Sian Jefferies – Treasurer  
Kerri Stephenson – Umpire Secretary  
Nicola Caswell - Fixtures Secretary  
Lyn Elvin – Publicity, Web & Umpire Mentor Secretary

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Melanie Sandford sent her apologies.

### 2. Team Attendance

All teams attended and all teams had at least four players in attendance.

### 3. Welcome from the Chair

Good evening and welcome to the AGM, it's good to see so many of you here.

The 2016/2017 went very well with very few issues and cancellations. The facilities at Lynn Grove and Beccles have been very good, but due to the two locations it has at times been difficult for the Umpiring Secretary to arrange umpires, so with that in mind the committee have managed to secure the indoor court at Lynn Grove for the future and therefore we will no longer need the court at Beccles. This will make arranging the fixtures much easier. Lyn has arranged for the back door between the outside court and the gym to be open to allow easier movement between the two locations.

On the subject of umpires, earlier in the year we ran a very successful rules forum for all umpires and teams. This was very well attended and as a result of that the new rules have been embedded well into the league with each umpire also being provided with a new rule book.

As you will all be aware England netball have sent out some information regarding an EGM. This is in relation to the fees going up quite significantly, the information being given to us by Norfolk, which is the county we are affiliated to is to vote yes, as they believe that it is going to be put towards helping grass roots netball, but it is your vote and you can vote whichever way you see, obviously this is going to have an impact on you all.

Lyn Elvin is in the process of organising a walking netball match, so if you would like to take part or know of anyone who would, please speak to Lyn.

### 4. Minutes from AGM16 Tue 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016

The minutes of the Annual General meeting held March 2016 were agreed.

### 5. Reports

5.1 Treasurer  
See below -

## Netball Accounts 16-17

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Balance B/F	1453.14	<b>Court Fees</b>	
Petty Cash	30.00	Lynn Grove Winter 15/16	175.00
adj. for uncleared Chq	<u>-25.00</u>	SJLHS Winter 15/16	400.00
	<b>1,458.14</b>	Lynn Grove Summer 16	1,093.75
		SJLHS Summer 16	650.00
		Lynn Grove Winter 16/17	825.00
		SJLHS Winter 16/17	900.00
		Scorecards	25.00
		Committee Expenses	180.00
		Rule Books	87.50
Rules Workshop	102.00	New Rules Roadshow	110.48
Miscellaneous (Sian)	180.00	Website	85.00
League fees Summer	1,350.00	Miscellaneous (Sian)	180.00
League fees Winter	2,210.00	AGM Prizes	120.00
No Umpire Fee	<u>16.00</u>	Engraving	<u>6.50</u>
	<b>3,858.00</b>		<b>4,838.23</b>
		C/F	
		Current Account	1,501.16 as at 20 Mar 17
		Less unrepresented Chqs	-325.00
			-50.00
			-350.00
			-180.00
			-120.00
		Balance per accounts	476.16
		Petty Cash	<u>1.75</u>
			<b>477.91</b>
	<b>5,316.14</b>		<b>5,316.14</b>

### 5.2 Fixtures/Cancellations

All fixtures were played with no real issues apart from one night where matches had to be rescheduled for Health and Safety reasons. Thanks to Babs for arranging the one between Cliff Park teams. Nicola reminded all teams to ensure she has the cards by 10pm on the evening of play, and to send a picture of their card if she is not at the courts. Also to pick the fair player by ringing the name on the card. She also asked if teams still wanted the scores in the local papers. There was a show of hand and it was agreed that the scores would still go in the local press.

### 5.3 Umpire Secretary

There have been minimal disruptions or problems throughout this year due to all umpires being flexible and covering each other, sometimes at very short notice when needed. I would like to thank all of the umpires for their continued support throughout the Summer and Winter leagues. We have had four umpires who have successfully passed their umpiring award this year: -

**Jodie Stephenson** – Potters – Beginners award

**Hannah Baldry** – Tasers – Beginners award

**Deborah Smith** – Beccles Bluebirds – Beginners award

**Emma Spary** – Beccles Bluebirds – C award

Well done to you all.

We have recently had an 'Into Officiating' course which has replaced the Beginners course. Three trainees from Venture and Hawks attended this last month.

Next month we have a C award course in Norwich and four candidates are booked onto this too.

Last July a New Rules Roadshow was held at Lynn Grove, hosted by Norfolk and attended by all available umpires. Following on from this the league organised another Roadshow specifically aimed at players and hosted by Sophie Pike and Anne Harper. All teams were represented, where the new rules were explained and lots of questions were answered. The roadshow was deemed to be a success as players were ready for the new rules and the impact they would make on the game when the Winter season began.

Looking back on the last season, it has been really encouraging with the amount of questions being asked about the new rules each week, which to me, demonstrates willingness to understand the rules which, as a result, allows a better game of netball. I am sure you will all agree that the games have got a lot quieter on a Tuesday night with the lack of whistle blowing for when a goal is scored. I am sure the neighbours near Lynn Grove appreciate this change.

We have three mentors in the league who have worked steadily with the trainees from the teams without qualified umpires. Thank you Lyn, our lead mentor and to Karen also. In the summer league we will be asking all C award and above umpires to be aware that there will be some trainees umpiring some matches with them throughout. Could you all please ensure that players are patient in these situations and show compassion for the trainees as they learn this aspect of the game. We all have to start somewhere and the Summer league is ideal for them to gain confidence and experience in umpiring. If any C award umpires feel they would like to help with mentoring, a Mentor Course has just been announced on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April in Norwich – please speak to Lyn for more info.

We are aware that umpiring is not for everyone, so please ensure that you elect the correct person to be your designated trainee. We have had a couple of mentees begin the mentoring process and then resign well into the season. The respective teams then have to find replacement trainees and we as mentors are then required to begin again with them. All time spent with the previous trainee has been lost and could have been spent on the mentees who have patiently waited for more time with us. I am sure you will all agree the frustration this causes.

Could you all be aware that to play netball you have to provide a suitable ball. This ball needs to be inflated correctly and be ready when the umpire asks to check it. It is the 'home' team's responsibility to provide the match ball. The specifications of your match ball is on page 17 in your rule book. Moving forward I would like all umpires to arrange their own cover should they not be able to make the allocated match. You will find all umpires contact details on the Lowestoft Netball website. When you have found a suitable replacement, please let me know via text message so that I am aware of the change. Can I suggest that I set up a whatsapp group to facilitate this. If there are any umpires who would rather not be part of this group please let me know.

As Summer league fixtures will be completed after this meeting, I will need to know dates of when each umpire is unavailable. Please see me after to ensure you are not scheduled to umpire a game whilst sunning yourself on a beach somewhere.  
Thank you all for your support in my first year as umpiring secretary. You have all been really accommodating whilst learning this new responsibility.

## 6. New Players/Players Playing Up

For teams that have two or more teams need to make sure that if any of their lower level team players play up for the higher team that they let Mel know before 5pm as you would when you inform her of playing an unaffiliated player. Players can only play up twice.

## 7. Summer League – Schedule, Handicap, Points & Times

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 venue. 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. The summer league will be played as a round robin. The first match will be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April and the last game will be played on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July. The fee to enter the summer league will be £110.

## 8. AOB

Libby Gates would like to join the committee and help with any role where possible. This was agreed by the all teams and committee members. Welcome on aboard Libby.

## 9. Presentations

### Summer League 2016 Results

**Group 1 Winners** - CP Eagles

Runners Up - CP Robins

Fair Player - K Stimpson (Beccles Hawks)

**Group 2 Winners** – Draw Engineering

Runners Up – CP Falcons

Fair Player - K Barbor (Vintage Vinyl)

### Winter League 2016 Results

**Div 1 Winners** - CP Eagles

Runners Up - CP Kestrels

Fair Player - K Soloman (CP Eagles)

**Div 2 Winners** - CP Falcons

Runners Up – CP Robins

Fair Player - A Wakely (M&H K-os)

### Linda Crisp Umpire Award

This was voted for by umpires only, before the AGM.

The Winner was Kerri Stephenson. Wendy Moore and Sammy Harewood presented her with flowers and the award.