

**TYNE AND WEAR COUNTY NETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015**  
**7 00PM AT BLUE FLAMES SPORTING CLUB**

**Committee**

Liz Wisniewski Competitions Officer  
Linda Hall Treasurer  
Margaret Tobin County Secretary  
Deborah Percy Performance Officer  
Rachel Cassidy Publicity Officer

Kim Richardson Schools  
Leanne Watson Youth Officer  
Wendy Pinkney Committee Member  
Emma Ross Officiating Officer  
Kelsy Mavin Committee Member

**CLUBS**

7 four 7 - Kelly Galloway, Laura Hanson  
7 Up - Laura Hanson  
Alexandra - Erika Wood, Lisa Bramley  
Astley - Jolene Byers, Odell Harrison  
Beacon - Val Reynolds, Claire Scragg  
Blue Flames - Kerry Guy, Paula Graham  
Bond Dickinson - Frances Everett, N Baguley  
Burnside - Margaret Chambers, Wendy Pinkney  
Chopwell - Val Reynolds, Claire Scragg  
Cobalt Vixens - Sophie Pugh, Kayleigh Darling  
Concordia - Rachel Ramsey, Noreena Hare  
Custom Planet - Elizabeth Burdis, ano  
Denton Park - Leanne Wetherburn, Amy Kirsop  
Durham Dodgers - Katie Huck, Claire Huck  
Durham Palantines - Claire Henderson, Marie Ewing  
FOWS - Frankie Wright, Joanne Lee  
Freeman Knights - Susan Robinson, Victoria Jones  
Gateshead - Leanne Watson, Jan Adams  
Gosforth - Karen Muir, Jo Kilner  
Greencroft - Katie Davidson, E Askey  
Fusion - Amy Kirsopp, Jess Brough  
Jesmond - Kim Richardson, Abbie Waller, Natalie Tweddle  
KATS - Claire Tritton, Lorna Banner  
NT Unison - Liz Wisniewski, Helen Emmerson, Susan Clark

Newcastle City - Anna Barnes, Rachel Cassidy  
Newcastle Storm - Rachel Cassidy, Anna Barnes  
Novos - Helen Clothier, Rachel Rider  
Panthers - Tanya Seddon, Michelle Patten  
Prudhoe - Sue Henderson, A Little  
PWC - V Morton, Jenny Cousins, Lorna Banner  
P&G - Emma Connelly, Sarah Nicholson  
Riverside - Rachel Barrett, Pat Percy  
Sage - C. Allsopp, J Baughman  
Sandyford - L Hanson  
Seaton Burn - Lorraine Netherton, Jacqui Netherton  
Seatonians - Lindsay Bradley, Rachel Cassidy  
Stadium - Jo McLeod  
Stanley Thunder - Claire Read Marie Lee  
S'land Predators - Laura Coleman, Kelsy Mavin  
TEAM - Julie Waller, Michelle Patten, Liz Wisniewski  
Tigers - Catriona Powell, Gail Andrew  
Tynemouth  
Vixens - Hayley Tindale, Sara Jones  
Wearside Wildcats - Emma Nutley, Jessica Hughes  
Westgate  
Willington - Emma Ross, Susan Clark, Lynn Morrison

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Tori Brady, Lynne Booth, Kerry Smith

**2. Minutes of 2014 AGM**

It was pointed out that Laura from 747 and Eve Askey from Greencroft attended last year and were missed off the list.

Minutes agreed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Lorraine Netherton, seconded by Rachel Ramsay

**3. Committee Reports**

Liz Wisniewski chaired meeting and made a brief report on achievements and developments.

**Performance** - Deborah Percy reported on Academy and Satellite achievements and was happy to report there has been a lot of progress.

**Officiating** - Emma Ross (acting Officiating Officer) gave a brief report and pointed out we need more umpires to take C award.

**Affiliations** - It was announced that Affiliations Officer, Sue Borthwick has stepped down as has Lynne Booth Officiating Officer they were both thanked for their service and input over the years. Liz Wisniewski outlined the increase in affiliation fees by England Netball however this was being absorbed by the County and the fee for next year would remain at £34 00. My Net will be available from 1st August 2015 for affiliations. Be aware that fees paid using Debit Card at 25p extra and Credit Card at 4% extra. All individuals can access My Net and check on their own details and make sure they are correct.

**Schools** - Kim Richardson spoke about school affiliations and competitions between schools.

**Competition** - There had been some issues this year with Team Sheets being lost following the AGM and clubs were asked to choose between taking their sheets now, or retrieving them from the box each week.

The work involved in checking the affiliations of all players is too onerous and so a new process was being introduced. In future clubs will print club rosters from My Net then mark these up with their nominations and hand in at their first match. This new process will be used for the upcoming Winter League. At the same time clubs will also list their additional players (previously referred to as second affiliations) and pay for these additional players.

The Under 14 National Finals has been held at Sports Central which was now viewed by England Netball as an excellent venue for significant events. Hopefully we will get more up north.

Massive Congratulations were offered to Riverside who were the first Tyne and Wear club to get a team into the National Premier League.

**Congratulations** were offered to Pat Percy (Officiating), Val Reynolds and Jackie Holford (Unsung Heroes) and Emily McLintock (Young Volunteer) who were all winners of North East Golden Globes. Liz Wisniewski won the Lily McGurk award for the Outstanding Contribution to the Region. Well done ladies a credit to our region.

#### **4. Adoption of Accounts**

Linda Hall presented the accounts which had also just been audited with no issues raised. Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Tanya Seddon and seconded by Julie Waller.

#### **5. Elections of Officers**

Affiliations Officer - Katie Davidson was proposed by Eve Askey and seconded by Rachel Ramsey and duly appointed as the new Affiliations Officer, welcome Katie.

Officiating Officer - was proposed by Liz Wisniewski and seconded by Linda Hall and was duly appointed as the new Officiating Officer, welcome Emma

It was also mentioned that anyone interested in getting involved in the work of the Committee would be welcomed.

#### **6. Appointment of an Auditor**

It was agreed to appoint Val Reynolds as Auditor for the TWCNA County and Affiliation Accounts.

#### **7. Consideration of Proposed Resolutions**

There were no proposed resolutions.

The Chair closed the formal part of the meeting at 19 40.

#### **Open Forum commenced at 19 45**

After the formal meeting closed the following issues were discussed.

The League Secretary handed out prizes for Winter and Spring seasons.

It was outlined that the County Leagues are now full and that following discussions with members of North Durham County Committee it had been agreed to introduce a requirement for clubs which are based in North Durham or Northumberland County areas must have a team in their 'home' county league. If they fulfil this requirement then they can also play in the T&W League. This requirement will be formally introduced in September 2016. play in TWCNA as well. Clubs who have any queries about this requirement should contact the Competitions Officer, Liz Wisniewski.

It was mentioned that a lot of matches have been conceded and not played this year. It was emphasised that it is very important for teams to play if at all possible even if it's a friendly. Not playing at all should be avoided at all costs.

Helen Emmerson (NE Regional Manager) spoke briefly about netball regionally and also to offer assistance on any matters, i.e affiliations, website etc.

### Questions

- Susan Clarke asked when the League starts and was informed it would be 24/9/15, a Thursday.
- Several members asked when Fixture List will be available and they were informed they would be done before the end of August.
- No further questions were asked.
- Jan Adams suggested all umpires should pass a fitness test not just B Award (Division 1/2) umpires. Helen Emmerson stated that all trainee umpires are now required to submit a fitness test as part of the Assessment process. The Officiating Officer will investigate this proposal.
- The committee will also be considering a proposal that all Clubs should have a practising Umpire within their ranks. The potential time scale for this would be about two years.
- There were issues raised about the maintenance of the Blue Flames venue - nets on posts, sweeping of courts, back boards to stop balls being lost, etc.. This will be raised with BF. Helen Emmerson also informed members that Blue Flames have applied for funding to replace the floors in the playing area.
- It was suggested that we change to a warmer venue which would perhaps limit injuries. It was pointed out that finding similar court time in a single venue would be very difficult. Blue Flames is also the only three court venue in the region aside from Sports Central. In terms of injuries it was pointed out that these might be avoided if teams warmed up properly. This could be facilitated by extending the booking. However this would mean a later finish for the third game and there was agreement that this was not acceptable. It was suggested that the area at the end of the courts (used for cricket on occasion) could be used. This was to be investigated.
- Jan Adams raised the issue of players from one team playing in a variety of kits and variations. This would be brought up at Committee.
- It was suggested that there should be a qualified First Aider on duty at Blue Flames during the matches. This would be investigated but it was confirmed that it had always been the responsibility of teams to provide their own first aid support and resources. There is an Accident Book at Blue Flames which clubs were reminded should be completed in the event of any incident, or alternatively there is an official form on the England Netball website which can be completed.
- Emma Ross reminded everyone that umpires should try to wear a white top at least to make them stand out from the players. Umpires have also asked that captains have the Team Sheets ready to sign as soon as the game is completed as they are often rushing to another court to play or umpire. Similarly Umpires should be paid promptly either before or at the end of the match, they should not have to 'find' the team and 'ask' for the money. Pat Percy suggested that Duty Team could be asked to pass on Umpiring money where there is a gap between matches.
- Jo McLeod also brought up the point that 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> divisions have to supply Scorers who should sit together to avoid discrepancies on scores - teams to be reminded.

**Meeting concluded at 20:15 and League Entries started.**