AGM Notice

The East Midlands Annual General Meeting is to be held on Sunday 22nd June 2014 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Pegasus Business Park, Herald Way, East Midlands Airport, Derby, DE74 2TZ.

Registration is at 10am and the meeting will start at 10:30am. Any formal resolutions/proposals for change to the constitution must be proposed, seconded and submitted in writing on the appropriate form to the Regional Office by mid-day on the 30th May 2014. Acceptance will be by a majority vote.

Nominations for Elected Board Members may be made by any member entitled to vote at the AGM. Nominations must be proposed and seconded and submitted to the Regional Office by the mid-day on 30th May 2014. Nominees must be affiliated members of the region.

Elected Member positions are:
A) Chair
B) Vice Chair
C) Treasurer
D) Elected Member

Each nomination should be made on the appropriate application form and appointment will be by a simple majority vote.

For more information and to access the forms, please visit our website. All clubs, schools and members are invited to attend.

Goalden Globe Awards 2014

The 2014 Goalden Globe awards will be celebrating its 10th anniversary and the nominations are now open! The East Midlands Regional awards ceremony will be held at Radisson Blu Hotel from 12:30pm on Sunday 22nd of June 2014. To book your place at £20pp including a 2 course meal, email eastmidlands@englandnetball.co.uk no later than Friday 30th May.

To see the criteria for each award and to make your nominations go to the regional website. The closing date for nominations is Thursday 1st May.

Categories include Grassroots Official; Grassroots Coach; Young Volunteer; Netball Teacher; Unsung Hero and regional awards for Back to Netball; Long Service and our Jean Staley Award.
International Umpire Award

Kate Stevenson from Leicestershire was recently awarded the highest officiating accolade, the International Umpire Award (IUA). We met up with her to ask about all things officiating!

When and how did you get involved in umpiring? I started umpiring when I was 14 because my Mum and our County Chair were practising to become C award tutors. They needed a guinea pig on their course so I went along and quite enjoyed it! I realised after the County set up finished that I wouldn’t be good enough to play for England so I was determined to umpire for them instead!

Is there anyone who has helped along the way? Heather Gleadall from Derbyshire is a former International Umpire and has been a constant support. She comes to as many of my games as she can and is always at the end of the phone—she keeps my feet on the ground too. I’m over the moon when I have a good game but Heather’s first question is always ‘What do you need to work on?!’ My Mum has been great too, wiping away tears or patching me up after injuries as well as making sure my kit is washed and ironed! She also comes to games when she can.

Where do you currently umpire? I’m now in my 4th season of the Zeo Netball Superleague. I umpire in the National League and have umpired in 3 Test Series. I support the Rutland Back to Netball League working with umpires going for their C award and I mentor (and make tea and coffee) for the Leicester County Premier League. I’m looking forward to umpiring at the Special Olympics and Marion Smith tournaments coming up soon.

Do you have any role models? When in the Leicestershire U18 squad, we went to a Netball Super Cup game. All my friends were in awe at seeing Olivia Murphy, Jade Clarke or Karen Atkinson. I remember saying ‘Oh my word, there’s Bill Alexander!’

What training do you need to do to become an International Umpire? I’m in the gym at least 5 days a week working on cardio and strength. I watch hours of matches analysing umpires positioning and my own games scrutinising my own decisions. As well as the ZNSL games, I use local games to practise which is vital.

How do you prepare for a game? I get there really early! We’re supposed to arrive 2 hours before the start, but I get there 3 or 4 hours before!! Protocols like nail and court checks have to be done, then I find a quiet space, put on my music and warm up. I start with Beyonce to run to; stretch to Glee; Miley Cyrus helps me sprint and then a bit of 911 and Sir Cliff to just dance to and chill out before the game!

Have you had any setbacks? I slipped a disc in 2007 and after 5 hours surgery in 2009 I woke to find the surgeon squeezing my toe. He thought he’d damaged the nerve to my left foot and could be paralyzed! Luckily he hadn’t! In 2012 I damaged the lateral ligament in my ankle which again needed surgery—2 operations and 6 weeks of not bearing weight later, I could walk, then jog and then 8 months later, I received my IUA!

More officiating congratulations!

Congratulations to the following umpires who have passed their B award qualification:
Derbyshire- Kate Mann; Emily Beckett and Rachel Wilson
Lincolnshire- Victoria Adams and Robyn Rodgers
Regional Chair receives Award

Last month, East Midlands Regional Chair Sue Collin was honoured at the Torch Trophy Trust Awards which are for volunteers who have shown outstanding dedication to their sport in local communities. Sue has worked as a volunteer for England Netball for nearly 30 years. Her passion for the game and in particular her officiating, is very obvious to those who know her.

She has encouraged hundreds of umpires across the country to develop and move forward in their own umpiring careers—some even going on to umpire at international level.

As Regional Chair, Sue champions netball at every opportunity. In October 2010, Sue played a major part in organising and delivering the region’s first Umpires’ and Coaches’ conference.

Sue has headed a major restructuring programme for netball governance at regional level over the last three years involving a major commitment on Sue’s part and will create a much stronger regional management organisation, which will be beneficial for netball across the East Midlands. The fact that Sue has done this in a volunteer capacity and has been able to carry a whole raft of other volunteers with her into the new arrangements is testament to both her strength of character and commitment to netball in the region.

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Sue for collecting this well-deserved award.

Time to say goodbye

After 5 years, our East Midlands Performance Pathway Coach has taken the decision to retire. Rosie Port has been influential in the delivery of the Performance Pathway in the region and in many athletes making it in to the England set up. Rosie is one of the original members of the Regional Excel Coach team and a friendly and familiar face in the East Midlands. Rosie has had lots of success in her time as a REC (and more recently as Performance Pathway Coach) with many of her athletes progressing up into the National Programme. Rosie is now stepping down and we wish her a long and happy retirement. She will be sorely missed by her athletes and colleagues both in her region and nationally.

From July, we will welcome Sam Brightman to the post. Sam is currently a full time Netball Coach in a private school and an Assistant Coach in the East Regional Academy. Sam also coaches for Netball Switzerland, is the Head Coach of a Regional League team and has had a successful playing career herself, previously being part of the England and Team Bath programmes. We wish Sam well in her new role.
Net 10 for Life for CRUK!

Some of you may have been aware of the Net 10 for Life initiative which is the product of England Netball’s and Cancer Research UK’s growing partnership. This ran from the 2nd to the 16th March 2014 and it involved teams donating 10p per goal scored in a given fixture.

At the Regional League on Sunday 16th March, food and drink were sold to help raise money and teams from the league raised an impressive £157.56.

A big thank you to Lincoln City, Brig, Sleaford Barge, TFC Too, Falcons, Charnwood Sapphires, Hinckley Hurricanes, Nottingham Knights, Bluetits, Pennine, Nottingham City, Leapoole and all of your supporters for playing and donating! Another big thank you to the Umpires and officials who showed their support by wearing pink on the day (pictured below).

Nottingham Netball Academy completed the Plank Challenge and raised £54. Sleaford Barge totalled £51. Southgate donated £25. The DANA League raised £72.33 and Market Harborough League brought in almost £200. All of Northamptonshire’s Leagues got involved raising £155 in Corby; £285 in Wellingborough; £40 in Rushden and £114 in Daventry. The Back to Netball League in Nottingham raised £73.90.

This means the known amount raised in the East Midlands region is a staggering £1227.79 towards this amazing cause.

Well done all!

Above: East Midlands Regional Manager Olivia Murphy contributing by serving food and drink to raise money for CRUK
Right: Umpires supporting the campaign
Net 10 for Life Northamptonshire

Some leagues baked and sold cakes, wore fancy dress and swapped their umpire whites for pinks in order to raise money for England Netball’s partner charity. Over £500 was raised from Northamptonshire which was a fantastic amount to go towards the ‘Net 10 for Life’ campaign. Kelly Walker, Netball Development Officer for Northamptonshire said ‘This was a fantastic two weeks of fundraising from volunteers and players around the county. This is the first time we have participated in such an event and the total amount raised shows what fantastic players and volunteers we have who are committed to raising funds for our partner charity. I personally would like to thank the League Chairs and committee volunteers who organised the events - without them this would have not been possible.”

A big thank you to Wellingborough, Corby, Daventry and Rushden Netball leagues for their support.

Market Harborough

Saturday 15th March saw Market Harborough Netball League host the Net 10 event in aid of Cancer Research (pictured below). The League hosted a raffle with teams donating a range of great prizes to ensure it was a success. The League has promised to match all the net 10 goal donations and this combined with the raffle ensures that Cancer Research will be receiving almost two hundred pounds.

Chairperson Emma Weir reported she was impressed, although not surprised by the generosity of the players in Market Harborough and thanked the committee and Rural Trading Foxton Ladies Netball Team for their hard work in ensuring the event was a success.
Competition

Congratulations to Nottingham City Netball Club (pictured below) for winning the Regional League division 1. Nottingham City finished the season winning 12 games out of 14. Well done ladies and good luck in the Premier League play offs!

Regional U14 Tournament

The Regional U14 Tournament ran smoothly in the first glorious sunshine of the year with some excellent netball from ten competitive teams. Futureprint were the clear winners with 8 victories out of 9 matches, only losing to their county compatriots Northants JMs. The battle for second place was only settled in the last round but one when Northants JMs and Cliftonettes finished level with 7 wins each. Northants JMs join Futureprint at the National Finals on goal average. Final placing’s were:

1st Futureprint  2nd Northants JMs  3rd Cliftonettes  4th Brigg  5th Allestree Swifts  6th Charnwood Sapphires  7th Fenland  8th Allestree Osprey  9th Kimberley  10th Rutland Rockets

Congratulations also to Southgate Netball Club, winners of the Regional League division 2. The team won all 14 of their matches, scoring a total of 846 goals. Watch out division 1- Southgate are coming! Good luck ladies. To see the final placings of division 1 and 2 see the regional website.

Regional U16 League

Congratulations to the teams who took part in the Regional U16 League. The winners and runners up will go forward to the National Finals on 24th/25th May in Redbridge.

1st Charnwood  2nd Brigg  3rd Sleaford Barge  4th Ripley  5th Clifton Jade  6th Rutland  7th Northants JMs  8th Futureprint  9th Pennine  10th Clifton Gold

Above Top: U14 Winners Futureprint
Above: U14 Runners up Northants JMs

Above: U16 League winners Charnwood
Schools representing East Midlands in the National Schools Tournament fought hard in the U14, U16 and U19 categories. In the U14 section, Loughborough High School for Girls placed 5th and Uppingham School placed 15th. Oundle School and Repton school both placed 15th in the U16’s section. Nottingham Girls High School placed 15th and Northampton High School placed 17th in the U19’s section. Well done to all of you!

**County Satellite Tournament**

Derbyshire hosted the first regional satellite tournament at Swanwick Hall School supported by teams from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire. The weather was exceptionally kind to us and the parental support amazing.

The tournament really showed the excellent young talent we have in our region and it was a great opportunity for coaches to assess their squad members in a competitive game situation. The results were:

- Derbyshire Blue (Sat 1) 25 pts
- Derbyshire Green (Sat 2) 22 pts
- Derbyshire Yellow (Sat 1) 17 pts
- Derbyshire Red (Sat 2) 6 pts
- Lincolnshire 20 pts
- Northants 0 pts
- Leicestershire 18 pts

Thanks to all who supported the tournament. On 3rd May Derbyshire County Academy squads will be playing a 'onesie' tournament, a mixed squad festival of netball with funds dedicated to All 4 One. All support would be very welcome.

**National Schools Tournament**

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**Report from Loughborough High School**

Loughborough High School U14 netball team qualified for the National finals on 15th March in Elsmere Port, after winning the East Midlands regional tournament. The girls went on to play against 8 of the top schools in England. They started with a draw against Hymers 4-4. The girls then went on to beat Broxbourne 7-5, Penair 6-4, Christleton 8-7, George Salter 11-4, RGS 7-4. They were out matched against Lady Eleanor Holles losing 2-7, Aylesbury High losing 2-8. Loughborough High School finished third in their group narrowly missing out on the semi-finals and they finished fifth overall.
Derbyshire

12 primary school teams from South Derbyshire attended a High 5 tournament at John Port School in Etwall. The sun shone all day and all schools were excited for the afternoons events. Regional Manager Olivia Murphy attended the event for photos with the school teams along with Regional Performance athletes Tamikah Campbell and Brittany Coleman. The event ran smoothly and the final saw a high 5 battle between Willington and Heathfields. The game was tied at half time 1-1 but Willington dominated in the second half winning 5-1. Every team were given certificates for playing and the winning team all received a medal each. Well done to all schools that competed.

Competitions

Regional clubs High 5 competition:
- Date: Sunday 18th May 2014
- Venue: Soar Valley School, Gleneagles Avenue, Leicester, LE4 7GY
- Cost: £25 entry fee, £25 refundable deposit

Regional Clubs U12 Competition:
- Date: Sunday 18th May 2014
- Venue: Soar Valley School, Gleneagles Avenue, Leicester, LE4 7GY
- Cost: £25 entry fee, £25 refundable deposit

To enter the above competitions please visit our website

Courses

After an extensive review, the new UKCC Level 1 courses have now been released. The next course in the East Midlands will take place at the University of Leicester on 8th and 21st June 2014. To book onto this course, or others outside the region, visit the England Netball website.

The next set of level 1, 2 and the Level 2 conversion courses taking place between October 2014 and March 2015 will be released in early June. Keep an eye on the national and regional websites for details.

If you would like to discuss attending a course, any of our CPD coaching workshops or an officiating course, get in touch with the Regional Office at eastmidlands@englandnetball.co.uk
Leicestershire

Schools Invitational Tournament

On Saturday 22nd March Hinckley Ladies were hosts of the club’s first schools invitational tournament. The idea had come from the clubs junior representatives Emily Davis and Holly Hemsley which they quickly made a reality with help from other club members. Schools in the Hinckley and Bosworth area had been invited and teams from Dixie Grammar School, The Heathfield Academy, Redmoor Academy and St Martins Catholic Voluntary Academy were all in attendance. This was a great event and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were involved.

Communications secretary Jessica Burke said ‘The aim of the tournament is to promote netball in our community and to give the pupils the opportunity to play on our fantastic new courts which were opened back in October by England Netball’s Olivia Murphy.

Pupils from year 7, 8 and 9 got fully involved in the day with tournament matches and a penalty shoot-out competition. These were followed with trophy presentations which were donated by the tournaments sponsors D&R Meats. The winners of the year 7, 8 and 9 tournaments were Dixie Grammar School, with St Martins as runners up in year 7 and 8 and The Heathfield Academy runners up in year 9.

National Lottery Awards

Hinckley Ladies NC has been recommended by Sport England to enter The National Lottery Awards 2014. It was felt it would make an excellent nomination due to the amazing work the club has done since being awarded with funding for our new courts project. Now in their 11th year, the Awards are an annual search to find the UK’s favourite Lottery-funded projects. Voted for by the public, the Awards honour the people and organisations that are using Lottery funding to do incredible things in their local communities and across the UK. For more information visit the Lottery website.

Beth’s Tournament

Sunday 22nd June 2014 11:00am—4:00pm at Leicester Road Sports Ground

Hinckley Ladies Netball Club hold this annual tournament in memory of friend and former player Beth Richards, for more information see the Hinckley NC website.

New Players

Hinckley Ladies Netball Club is already planning for next season and looking at teams. “Promotion is looming for our C team and our newly formed F team are currently second in the new Flexi-League. We have had a big push in the last week for new members and are as always looking to increase our numbers.” Visit the club website for further details.

Nottinghamshire

Nottingham would like to welcome Amanda Hunt to her new post as Chair of City of Nottingham Back to Netball League, and wish her all the best in continuing the league’s success.

On the 30th April there will be a Back to Netball festival in Nottingham. For more information please contact Netball Development Community Coach Ruth Pickthorn at ruth.pickthorn@englandnetball.co.uk
Lincolnshire

Sainsbury’s Winter School Games 2014

Hundreds of school children in Lincolnshire have been inspired by sport after competing in a multi-sport event at Grantham Meres Leisure Centre. Approximately 650 children from 80 primary and secondary schools took part in six sports and a total of nine different competitions and one inclusive event on a bumper day of action, health and wellbeing.

A warm spring day saw some inspirational netball from the year 5 & 6’s from 16 schools across Lincolnshire all playing High 5. The schools had all qualified by being the winners or runners up of their local rounds. Each team played four or five matches within their groups and then overall placing’s were decided in later playoffs. The players rotated at each interval as per the rules of High 5.

The excitement rose as England International Olivia Murphy and Loughborough Lightning newcomer Moniek Van Rossum arrived to talk to the children and sign autographs.

Moniek, who is visiting from New Zealand said of the Games “This event had a buzz of excitement, with all of the kids and the adults having a fun filled day. It’s a great tournament to identify young players with some great netball skills and a fantastic way to introduce netball as a sporting option to continue with in the future.”

The umpires, volunteers from Lincolnshire’s CAPS clubs, were asked to choose a team which displayed all of the Olympic values of Respect, Inspiration, Courage, Friendship, Excellence and Determination.

The Sainsbury’s School Games were another part of a national initiative to give every pupil in the country the opportunity to experience competitive sport and feel part of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy.

The medals were presented court side to

**St Frances Hill School** - Bronze – presented by Kay Batkin from Youth Sport Trust

**Bourne Abbey** – Silver – presented by Olivia Murphy East Midlands Regional Manager

**Saxilby** – Gold – presented by Moniek Van Rossum Loughborough Lightning

**Uffington** – Olympic Values presented by Vanessa McErlain-Naylor Lincolnshire Netball County Chair
Northamptonshire

Women and Girls from Back to Netball programmes across the county took part in the Northamptonshire Back to Netball Festival at Moulton Sports Complex on Saturday 22nd February. Over 60 ladies took to the court and played a round robin tournament to compete to be winners and runners up. Volunteer umpires, coaches and table officials assisted on the day and Bev Burnham, Vice Chair from Northants County Netball Association presented the awards.

The top four places were all to play for and it came down to the last match which determined the final placing’s. Runners up were Manor Red’s from a Back to Netball programme run by Karen Tofte at Manor Sports Centre and the winning team playing their first ever netball match was Raven’s A from Wellingborough.

Kelly Walker Netball Development Officer for Northamptonshire said ‘It was a fabulous day. Many of the ladies were playing their first competitive match and the standard of netball was high which was great, especially with some of the ladies having not played since they were at school. The festival is a great way of bringing together players, volunteers, coaches and officials to showcase the fantastic work everyone is doing.’ For more information on netball opportunities in Northamptonshire, contact Kelly Walker at kelly.walker@englandnetball.co.uk or on 07545 924954.

England Netball Challenge Cup

On Thursday 12th March FE colleges and 6th form netball teams from across Northamptonshire competed for the first ever England Netball Challenge Cup which was kindly hosted by Moulton College. The aim of the festival was to engage with girls playing netball via the ‘Active Colleges’ programme or schools/college teams with limited local competition.

27 girls attended the event which was supported by volunteer umpires and staff from the East Midlands Region. The teams played each other twice in a fun and friendly festival with Campion School taking the winners place, undefeated throughout the competition.

The players and teachers really enjoyed the event and would like to see more opportunities for the students in the future.

On behalf of England Netball we would like to thank Moulton College for hosting the event, and the teachers, umpires and players who made it a great success.