

Reports can be written on and submitted through our website at: www.eastmidlandsnetball.co.uk/newspaper-submissions.html.

Photos of the tournament can also be uploaded on this webpage.

Writing a netball tournament report is **really easy** and doesn't take long. You can even write part of it before the tournament has started! Here is a quick-step guide to letting your local paper know how you went on and to help promote your club/school as well as netball in the region:

1. Before the Tournament

- a. Bring a decent digital camera. **You must adhere to the England Netball photography policy and also ask all players (and players' parents where necessary) for permission to send their photos to the press. This includes the other teams if necessary;**
- b. Designate somebody in your team to write down the scores after each quarter/half/game (you may be able to get these from the score card at the end of the matches);
- c. Take a team photograph and record the full names of the people in the positions they are standing. Include any specific roles e.g. coach, captain for the day, player of the tournament etc. (See below for an example).

2. During the Tournament

- a. Ask someone to take some photos for you. **The taking of photographs during the match is at the discretion of the Tournament Referees.** Anyone wishing to take photographs during the tournament will be required to register with the Tournament Referee before they take any photographs and will be required to wear official accreditation at all times (this is usually in the form of a sticker).
 - i. The more photographs you can get the better. It gives you greater options to choose from and you can use them to help promote your club/school as well (for example on your website). Try to take pictures of your team shooting, defending and at the centre pass (if there is space to do this and you don't get in the way of the umpire);
 - ii. Taking photographs from different angles can be fun and can still be used to promote your club/school. However, from our experience, the photographs that appear in the newspapers the most are those that have:
 1. captured the whole body and show some 'action' (i.e. with the ball);
 2. those that show a few players in the shot and a ball nearby; and
 3. those that show players within the vicinity of a goal.
- b. Remember to write down the score after each quarter/half/game;
 - i. Keep a note of how each your players have done during the matches. This is useful for later on, including for when writing a report.
 1. Remember that newspapers' sports editors may know little about netball or about the tournament. Therefore it is better to write your reports thinking along these lines than assuming they know about the sport.
 2. It is also really helpful for newspapers if the full names of netball positions are included when writing the reports. For example, it is useful to initially write "Wing Defence (WD)" rather than just "WD". Then "WD" can be used for the rest of the report.
- c. Try and find out how your opponents have gone on in the tournament so far (wins, losses, draws) or if they knock you out, where they end up finishing. Remember to record the name of the opponent(s) and from which county (counties) they are from (or local area if from the same county). This is important because it helps your local newspaper build a bigger picture of how well your team has performed if they understand it is a great achievement to be playing in a regional tournament against teams from other counties.

3. As soon as the tournament has finished

- a. Unless one is chosen for you (for example, by another team), choose a 'Player of the Tournament' for your team (or if there are two for whatever reason then say so) and the reason(s) for your choice;
- b. Take separate photographs of the 'Player(s) of the Tournament' and of the whole team (this gives newspapers greater choice);
 - i. Download all of your photos and choose your best ones to upload to the East Midlands Netball website (maximum 4 photos);
- c. It is important that you write the report **that evening** because this gives the greatest opportunity for your report to be published in your local newspaper before their deadline passes. To do this, go to www.eastmidlandsnetball.co.uk/newspaper-submissions.html and write a very simple tournament report (**no more than two paragraphs**) that includes:
 - i. The full name of the tournament that you were playing in (preferably in a title or the first couple of lines of the report) as well as the geographic location (Derby, Loughborough, Wellingborough, Corby etc.)
 - ii. The competition/tournament you qualified from to play in this tournament (if applicable)
 - iii. Your team name and the teams you were playing, including which county (counties) they came from;
 - iv. Each quarter/half/game score of every match played until your team has won or is knocked out;
 - v. The 'Player(s) of the Tournament' (and why the team voted for her/them);
 - vi. Include your club/school, league, county and/or regional website (choose up to two of the most appropriate) and if they can follow you on e.g. Facebook/Twitter. Include the web-links at the end of the report;
 - vii. **Please note you must adhere to the EN Codes of Conduct and not include any derogatory comments about any players, officials or volunteers;**
- d. Upload the most appropriate photographs (preferably including a team photograph).
 - i. Please ensure that every photograph you send has a caption with it as well as the person's/people's name(s) from your team (e.g. "Oundle School's 'Player of the Tournament', **Honor de Winton** makes space to support her teammates")
- e. Press 'submit' on the webpage and wait for confirmation that your report has been sent. Don't worry if it takes a while – if you are submitting photographs then it may take a while for the photos to be uploaded.

Below is an example of a mini report that you may like to follow

Example Title: Oundle School's **Honor de Winton** given her team's 'Player of the Tournament' in the East Midlands Netball Regional Schools Competition

Oundle School reached the semi-finals of today's East Midlands Netball Regional Schools Tournament (**include the date of the tournament**). Having qualified for the Regional Tournament by finishing runners up in Northamptonshire's County Netball Tournament earlier in the season, **Oundle** went into their first round-robin game against Leicestershire's [**insert first opponent's team**] a little anxious and unsure of what to expect. They needn't have worried. **Oundle** stormed ahead in the first half to lead 10-6. [**insert first opponent's team**] came back in the second half but great defence by **Oundle's Honor de Winton**, including a number of timely interceptions, ensured that **Oundle** came out eventual winners, 18-15. **Oundle** continued their good form into their second match where they played local county rivals, [**insert second opponent's team**]. The game was close but unfortunately for **Oundle**, the result was the same as in the County Tournament with [**insert second opponent's team**] eventually winning 17-16. This meant that **Oundle** had to win their final three games of the group stage against Lincolnshire's [**insert third opponent's team**], Derbyshire's [**insert fourth opponent's team**] and Nottinghamshire's [**insert fifth opponent's team**] to have any chance of progressing to the knock-out stages. **Oundle** won the first two games 20-16 and 19-15. Nottinghamshire's [**insert fifth opponent's team**] also had to win the game to progress so unsurprisingly both teams started nervously. However, **Oundle School** settled the quickest and won the first quarter, 14-11 to open up a 3-point gap. [**insert fifth opponent's team**] won the second half 10-11 but it was not enough to overturn **Oundle's** first half advantage and the Northamptonshire school progressed into the semi-final stages as runners up of the group with a 24-22 win.

The semi-final game meant **Oundle** was up against Lincolnshire's [**insert sixth opponent's team**], who had won five of their group games and drawn the other. **Oundle** converted their first centre pass but [**insert sixth opponent's team**] responded with their own successful conversion. In fact, the game went almost goal-for-goal for the entire half. **Oundle** won the first half 8-7 and began the second half well, scoring the first goal. However, [**insert sixth opponent's team**] scored three goals in a row and it could have been more had **Oundle's Honor de Winton** not made another great tip. At the other end, **Oundle's Olivia Hodgkinson** converted two goals on the trot, including a fantastic shot from just inside the attacking D. However, it was not enough and Lincolnshire's [**insert sixth opponent's team**] went on to win the game 15-17, meaning they reached the final, where they beat [e.g. **insert second opponent's team**] 21-18. Despite exiting at the semi-final stage, **Oundle** took heart from a great team performance throughout the tournament. **Honor de Winton** was voted **Oundle School's** 'Player of the Tournament' for her fine defensive display. For more information on **Oundle School Netball**, please visit (<http://www.oundleschool.org.uk/sport/sports/netball.php>) or for general netball enquiries, please visit <http://www.oundleschool.org.uk/>.

	<p>Caption associated with the photograph:</p> <p>Oundle's Back row (from left): Molly MacLeod, Juliette Alier, Honor De Winton, Annie Bolle-Jones, Fiz Fields</p> <p>Front row (from left): Holly Marks, Annie Bletsoe-Brown, Olivia Hodgkinson</p>		<p>Caption associated with the photograph:</p> <p>Oundle School's 'Player of the Tournament', Honor de Winton makes space to support her teammates</p>
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