



# Annual Report 2014-2015



## Welcome to 2015 Netball South – AGM

### Chairman – Bill Alexander

In my first year as Chair, I would wish to thank all of the Regional Board for the support that they have given me in my new role. The South Region continues to face a number of challenges and on each occasion the Board has risen to those challenges in providing effective solutions. The vision and direction of the Board is firmly aligned with the principles and objectives of England Netball in its aim to increase participation and to improve performance. The South Region has succeeded in these key areas by maintaining the level of its membership and the results of Team South in the NPL League is testament to the improvement in player performance.

Much of this success is due to our volunteers, without whom the Region would not be able to provide the diversity of leagues and competitions. Our technical support groups ensure that competitions and leagues run well and that teams have umpires. The newly established Coaching TSG has been able to survey over a 100 coaches across the region and this will culminate in a successful coaching day in July 2015. Similarly thank you must go to the Team South support staff and Performance TSG for what they have achieved this season. On the occasions when I have attended Team South fixtures I have been impressed with the performance of the players, each one of them playing their part in a successful season.

As a Board we are just finalising the contract for our web site design. A number of Counties have expressed interest in this too so that we can achieve economies of scale.

It would be remiss of me not to thank the County Boards for the excellent work that continues within our counties across the Region.

Over the next few years, as a Region, we will face a number of challenges: commercial leagues, the need to increase participation, improvement in performance, access to high class facilities and demands upon our volunteers. We must see the commercial leagues as being an opportunity, in that they are complementary and not in competition, if we are to see continued growth in participation.

In going forward, I want the process of participating on a TSG to be much more open and transparent based upon individual skills and experience. To this end, all TSGs will begin a recruiting process immediately after the AGM by application and expression of interest. The lead Board member and members of the Board will recruit personnel that can commit, have the necessary skills and can give time to the roles required. The TSGs will continue to be led by key Board members, appointed by the Board.

During the course of the year the Region and Counties have been well supported by England Netball Staff. The Region and Counties are mindful of the financial support received from England Netball for Region and County personnel. We are guided by them to agree and set targets so that we are all aligned to the Whole Sport Plan. We know that next year will be an ambitious year for the Region and Counties as we continue to improve upon previous targets.

Finally, I look forward to working with you all next year, as we continue to work co-operatively for the benefit of netball across the Region.

## Coaching – Priya Samuel

- For the first time in a number of years Netball South appointed a member of the RMB to the role as Coaching TSG chair. It was always intended to use the 2014-15 year to survey current situation, understand need, consult with members and produce a coach development action plan for the future. I am pleased to inform members we have achieved this.
- This is a genuinely exciting time for coaches and counties in Netball South. They have a unique opportunity to work alongside volunteers from Netball South Regional Management Board (RMB) to shape and influence the regional coaching strategy, which in turn, we hope, will cascade down to county plans and feed up to national strategy where possible. Coaches and counties, are you ready?
- I proactively initiated contact and communicated with EN's Education and Training (coaching) department to collaboratively produce information to all coaches based in the region of the change in coaching qualification structure and consequences for clubs, schools and coaching personnel.
- Netball South did not have access to its UKCC qualified coaches. The Coaching TSG compiled a short survey monkey that allowed coaches to inform us as to who they are, where they are located, their needs and who they are coaching. In two months, 100 coaches responded, the deadline was extended and an overall 156 NS based coaches replied with additional coaches from outside the region also completing the survey.
- Feedback and analysis from the survey has indicated coaches' needs and gaps in knowledge which will be used to develop workshops that will be delivered within the region.
- On 18 July 2015, Netball South will deliver a coaching engagement day at Surrey Sports Park, opened for 80 coaches to learn, share and empower each other in netball and non-netball coaching areas. Speakers who are experts in their respective fields have been secured. The intention is for the event to be used as a catalyst for coaches within the region to assess their knowledge and challenge their delivery style to ensure they enjoy what they are delivering to players.
- I am taking this opportunity to thank Jenny Obin (Regional Coordinator) and Kat Valk (Regional Manager) for their immense support to raise the profile of coaching in our region.
- As Coaching TSG Chair, I'd like to make one request: to improve coaching, Netball South needs coaches to form a coaching TSG. The aim of the TSG is to advise, shape and deliver coaching in our area. We need participation – elite coaches to raise awareness of work and how Netball South is advocating the coaching agenda to members, and Netball South's openness to sharing information to support England Netball's national coaching strategy.

## Competition – Carol Alexander

The season started with a bumper number of 27 teams at the Entry Tournament across U19/U16/U14 and U13 age groups. Although a long day, with careful planning we were able to complete it in one day with the top 8 from each age group qualifying for the league. Unfortunately we then had teams withdraw from U19/U14 and U13 age groups.

Due to the large number that did not qualify the CTSG tried hard to organise a 2<sup>nd</sup> tier competition but this was not supported by the clubs and counties.

Throughout the year we had more issues this season, particularly with Junior Clubs, than in previous seasons. Clubs must be committed and ensure players are up to the standard of this level of competition. It is not a social league.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Regional National Schools in January due to unexpected overnight snowfall. After trying to sweep the courts at 6.30 in the morning, we had to admit defeat. Out of 42 we only had one team turn up, 3 umpires and a member of RMB. Bacon rolls all round were appreciated. We rescheduled for the reserve date the following week but had to move the venue to Wavell. All but 6 of the original teams attended. What was disappointing was the continual comments from schools as to why we cancelled so late, and making suggestions for us to do this or that but no offer of help from any school staff. Changing the date meant we had to re-arrange junior league fixtures. Several Junior Clubs still asked if they could play on this date without thinking of the bigger picture for the region and the need for umpires, volunteers etc.

Our play offs this year have been moved to Surrey Sports Park and thank you to all clubs involved for being patient. We had 4 possible scenarios and these could not be confirmed until after England Netball Premier Play Offs on 9/10th May. Congratulations to Sussex Thunder who remain in the Premier League but unfortunately Eagles, our South Region winners, were unsuccessful. For 2015/16 we will have three Open divisions with 8 teams in each.

All paperwork has been circulated for Play offs, Entry Tournament, League Entries. Provisional dates for 2015/16 were circulated and these can now be confirmed. Regulations for next year will be reviewed and circulated as soon as possible.

We have been closely working with OTSG regarding next year's league, particularly in regard to entry fees and umpire allocations.

I would once again like to thank the CTSG members for administering the leagues and tournaments. We are still a very small group so it is limited as to what we can do. With more help we could expand further. If anyone is able to give a few hours a week/month/ at a tournament then please contact the Regional Office.

**Carol Alexander**  
(Chair and on behalf of CTSG)

#### **Officiating – Carol Williams**

This has been a much more successful year for the OTSG following a period of uncertainty and direction. The OTSG has managed to work more proactively and is continuing to develop the support we are able to give in all areas of officiating. However, the group is still in need of new members to support the work we are planning for the coming season.

The season has been an extremely busy one for umpires at all levels, whether officiating in the local leagues or at Regional and National levels, and we are very pleased to see the continued success of our umpires in the South.

Following on from the first officiating conference in April 2013, which was attended by 70 umpires across the region from all levels, in 2014 we held an umpire conference specifically for those umpires on the Approved Umpires List (AUL). The aim of the conference was to get further understanding from the

umpires as to how the OTSG can support them as well as clarify the expectation from the OTSG of being on the AUL. In addition we concentrated on “Dealing with Discipline” and the rules particularly in this area including a focus on the advancement of penalties. For 2015 we held a conference specifically to build on “how we support our umpires”. This was designed to bring together our County Umpiring Secretaries and our key mentors throughout the region to understand how we can support our umpires better.

## **National Appointments**

### **Premier League Play Off**

Many of our A Award umpires attended the playoffs at the beginning of May, which saw our regional teams Clan and Sussex Thunder remain in Premier League 2 and 3.

### **National Schools Finals 2015**

Despite being held in Cheshire Netball South fielded a large number of umpires again this year and a number of our umpires were used in the semi finals and finals of this competition.

### **National Under 16 Finals**

This year’s U16 competition was an opportunity for our new A awards and our NPL umpires to attend to represent the South. Well done to Alice Johnson and Julie Wilks who umpired and reserved respectively for the final which was won by Woodley.

### **Netball Conference**

This was held in September 2014 and was attended by a number of South umpires. Some financial support was provided. The Conference was opened to all umpires of all levels for the first time and this is the same theme being carried forward for this year’s conference “Make the Game”. All umpires will have been surveyed to see what themes they would like covered in this event.

## **Courses**

OTSG has organised one B Award course this year:

September 2014 attended by 11 umpires: Tutor – Carol Alexander

Another course is planned for 14 June 15.

Match Bench Officials formal course – 12 people attended this in March, and they are now working through the practical part of the course to gain the formal qualification. A further 12 people are on the waiting list for the next course to be delivered.

7 People sat the written paper in May 2014

3 people sat the written paper in November 2014

7 people sat the written paper work in February 2015.

Beginner and/or C Award courses have been held by Hampshire, Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Sussex, and South Bucks throughout the year.

## **Tests**

Congratulations to the following:

Two new As: Alice Johnson and Bronwen Rees

Four new Bs: Tina Small, Megan Samuel, Julie Wilks, Anita Doughty

## **C Awards**

This year saw the continuation across the region of a high number of assessments for beginner and C Awards umpires. During the coming year the region will be working with the County umpiring secretaries to increase our number of learner umpires and those acquiring their umpire awards.

## **Assessors**

Following on from last year we were still unable to get any new assessors, with the course still being devised through England Netball. However this is nearly completed and we should, during the coming year, start to see this being rolled out as a re-accreditation of our current assessors and then a formal course for new assessors.

## **Open League**

Over 60 A, B and C Award umpires have been eligible to officiate during the season for Divisions 1 and 2, but with commitments to Premier League it is a difficult balance to ensure that we have enough umpires for every match. Many thanks to Jenny Poore and Kim Schepens who organised the umpire schedule and dealt with continuing changes right up to the last minute. Not an easy task but helped enormously by the work of Gillian Frackleton.

Once again umpires, a huge thank you to all the umpires for working with us to support the region. Many thanks to them for their professionalism and commitment. For the coming year we will be allocating umpires to all Open league divisions and U19 so watch this space.

## **NPL League**

We have had a very successful year with a number of our NPL umpires being successful with their A awards, and some of this success has been as a result of videoing umpires to develop their skills and direct feedback.

At the Closing weekend our two umpires, Julie Wilks and Olivia Johnson, were chosen to do the final with Julie umpiring and Olivia as reserve umpire. Congratulations to both for this success.

With regards to match bench officiating we completed a theory evening tutored by Carol Alexander with 12 participants attending. In addition to the home fixtures being well supported I was also well supported for match bench officiating for the Closing weekend with Carol Alexander and Nicola Lindsay attending.

It has been commented at NPL weekends that Team South work well as a team with regards to the match bench, supporting the umpires and the umpires supporting one another very well.

## **Schools Regional Round U14/16/19** – February 2015 Farnborough

22 umpires officiated on the day:

After a false start with snow on the allocated day we had to shift from Sussex to Hampshire for the week later. We originally had 36 umpires for the day and managed to complete the second day with 22. A huge thank you must go to the Wavell Netball League in their support of this event and particularly Emma Dell for all her organisation.

This tournament would not have been possible without the support and full cooperation of all the umpires who officiated, many of whom went home with some positive feedback provided by experienced non-active umpires who combined this with the role of court manager.

The following umpires featured in the final rounds:

Under 14s

Semis: Emma Dell, Becci Dick, Izi Tunicliffe, Nikki Dewick

Final: Chantel Moore, Megan Samuel

Under 16s

Semis: Megan Samuel, Estelle Ball Julie Wilks, Chantel Moore

Final: Chris Obin, Alice Johnson

Under 19s

Semis: Elaine Holmes, Lisa Vallely, Chris Obin, Alice Johnson

Final: Elaine Holmes, Alice Johnson

Once again, I would like to thank very much the hard work done by the OTSG. We have had a number of meetings this year to discuss the organisation of umpires for the many tournaments which are now being held, as well as confirming tests and courses taking place. We have also built up our working relationships with the Competitions Group and now match up with colleagues, as required, to ensure that umpires or mentors are provided for competitions.

**Carol Williams**

On behalf of the OTSG:

Jenny Poore

Gillian Frackelton

Nicola Lindsay

Kim Schepens

Supported by Julie Wilks and Tracy Stubbs

**Performance and NPL – Phyllis Avery MBE**

‘Performance’ covers both Team South and the Regional Performance Programme.

**Team South**

Trials were held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 at Eagle House School, Sandhurst - a new training venue for Team South - and a competition squad of 13 was selected, plus an U17 training squad of 11. As was expected, some members of last year’s Team South attended trials for Surrey Storm Youth (which has a Superleague franchise), but the majority remained loyal to Team South. Training was held weekly on Tuesdays, with Elly Moore as Head Coach, Lisa Manning as Assistant Coach and Sue Baldwin, Team Manager. The first fixture was the tournament in November at the Worcester Arena, followed by the NPL Opening Weekend in December in Walsall. There were only two home matches, both played at The Dome, Chichester University, resulting in a loss against Mavericks by 26 – 50 goals, and a win against Junior Dragons 52 – 45 goals.

The Closing weekend was held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which involved transporting 12 athletes, 2 coaches, 1 team manager, 4 umpires/MBOs and 1 mentor almost from one end of the country to the other. On the Saturday, Team South beat West Midlands Warriors by 51 – 30 goals in the morning, and then beat Loughborough Lightning Youth by 46 – 38 in the afternoon. Final position in the League was fifth (out of ten teams) which was a great improvement on previous seasons, and our goal

average and +/- was better than the fourth placed team which was Surrey Storm Youth. Full results were as follows:-

Team	P	W	L	D	+	-	+/-	GA	PTS
Manchester Thunder Youth	9	9	0	0	558	297	261	1.88	45
Hertfordshire Mavericks Youth	9	8	1	0	559	309	250	1.81	41
Yorkshire Jets Youth	9	6	3	0	442	354	88	1.25	33
Surrey Storm Youth	9	6	3	0	428	432	-4	0.99	33
<b>Team South</b>	9	5	4	0	402	388	14	1.04	30
Loughborough Lightning Youth	9	4	5	0	398	400	-2	1	25
Junior Dragons	9	2	7	0	396	521	-125	0.76	17
Team Bath Youth	9	2	7	0	327	456	-129	0.72	16
West Midlands Warriors	9	2	7	0	289	442	-153	0.65	16
Team Northumbria Youth	9	1	8	0	271	471	-200	0.58	10

In the final of the NPL Plate, held on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, Team South beat Surrey Storm Youth by one goal, in the last minute of a very exciting match, to win the Plate.

The athletes all worked together and for each other, and our congratulations and thanks go to them, and the coaching team and team manager for a very successful end to the season. Netball South would also like to thank all the parents who ferried their daughters around so willingly and patiently, and who supported the squad throughout the season, particularly at the Closing Weekend in Newcastle.

Next season there will be changes to the format of NPL, with a league between the nine regions/franchises (8 matches: 4 home and 4 away) running from February – April 2016, plus a 3 – 5 day competition in July 2016 (exact details to be determined) to replicate international competition. There will be no pre-season tournament, and no Opening and Closing weekends.

### **Regional Academies**

This has been the second year of a four year programme, largely funded by England Netball.

The South **Regional Performance Academy** has been running since July 2013 at Oasis Community Hub, Lords Hill, Southampton, on Monday evenings from 8.00 to 10.00 pm, preceded by 1.5 hours Strength & Conditioning and physio treatment at Solent University, and attended by approx. 20 athletes. Further sessions are held on Thursday evenings and at day camps during school holidays, to make up the required number of coach-contact hours of 8 each week. Head Coach is Elly Moore, Performance Pathway Coach, who is employed by England Netball, and she has been assisted by Vanessa Clothier, Sue Baldwin and Fran Richards, who are all volunteers.

The **Regional Academy** has also been running since September 2013 at Oasis, this year for 4 hours each week, on Monday evenings from 6.00 to 8.00 pm, and some Thursday evenings, and attended by 16 athletes.



The location of the academies has been difficult for some athletes, and a number of South athletes have been steered for training to nearer academies in the London & S. East or East regions.

### **Netball Performance Foundation League**

An U17 regional academy squad took part in the NPFL Pilot Event at Redbridge Sports and Leisure Centre on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014. On day 1 they won four out of five matches and were runners up in their section and qualified to play for the Cup on day 2. With a number of injuries, day 2 was not so good, but two of the South players were 'spotted' and invited to attend the next National Academy positional day. This year NPFL will be held in Sheffield, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> July, and competition for places in the squad is strong.

### **National Academy**

Netball South would like to congratulate Fran Williams, Elsa Wakeman, Chartie Curtis, Sophie Drakeford-Lewis and Ashleigh Dekker, all of whom were invited to join the National Academy. Fran was selected for the England U21 tour squad, and Chartie, Sophie and Ashleigh played for the victorious England U17s at Netball Europe. Fran, Chartie and Sophie are members of Team South squad.

### **Coaches Workshop**

A very successful and well-supported workshop for County and Satellite Academy Coaches, led by Elly Moore, was held at The Wellington Academy, Tidworth on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Elly covered those parts of the syllabus which had been highlighted by the coaches as areas of uncertainty, particularly strength and conditioning, with young players there for the Academy coaches to work with.

### **Summer Camp**

Bradfield College was again the venue for Summer Camp, August 2014, attended by 38 netballers, 14 – 17 years old. All County Academy and Satellite Academy coaches were advised that they were welcome to attend, either to spectate or to get involved as part of the coaching team. Summer Camp this year will be held 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August, and very nearly 50 netballers have signed up to attend.

### **Satellite and County Festivals**

A very successful Satellite Academies Festival (age 12-14) was held at The Dome, Chichester, on 18<sup>th</sup> April. 111 Satellite Academy Performance Pathway athletes made up the 12 squads who participated, with each county being represented. In a mid-way break in the Festival, to facilitate benchmarking for the coaches and role-modelling for the athletes, 28 of the young satellite academy athletes were selected into four different teams to play a quarter each against a squad of Regional Academy athletes, all of whom are in their first year at regional level.

A month later a Festival was held for County Academy Performance Pathway athletes (age 13-15), and 91 players in 10 squads participated.

Awards were made at the end of the Festivals based on the five England Netball 'trademarks':- We are United – We are Relentless – We are Diverse – We are Resilient – We are Fearless. Scouts were in attendance at both events.

## **Independent Auditor's Report to Netball South**

I have conducted an independent audit of the accounting statements of Netball South for the financial year ending 30 April 2015 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely for the members of Netball South. My audit work has been undertaken so that I may state to the members of Netball South those matters I am required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Netball South and the members of the Netball South as a body, for my audit work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

### ***Scope of the audit of the financial statements***

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the organisation's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the members; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

### ***Opinion on the financial statements***

In my opinion the financial statements:-

- give a true and fair view of the state of Netball South's affairs as at 30 April 2015 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

### ***Opinion on other matters required by exception***

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where it is appropriate to report to you if, in my opinion:-

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for my audit have not been received; or
- the financial statements to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns: or
- I have not received all information and explanations I require for my audit.

### ***Recommendations from previous audit***

There were no recommendations from the previous audit.

**NETBALL SOUTH - Income and Expenditure Account as at 30th April 2015**

**INCOME**

**Affiliations**

Schools	£831.00	
Members	<u>£23,672.30</u>	£24,503.30

**Netball Performance League**

England Netball 2013/14	£2,223.44	
England Netball 2014/15	£3,448.91	
NPL trials	£180.00	
Training fees collected	£2,450.00	
Raffles	<u>£122.50</u>	£8,424.85

**Regional Academies**

England Netball	£10,500.00	
Training fees collected	£5,127.00	
Payment for kit	£260.00	
Tri-region/camps	<u>£195.00</u>	£16,082.00

**Leagues**

Open League entry fees	£3,345.00	
U19 League entry fees	£840.00	
Junior League entry t'ment	£1,595.00	
Junior League entry fees	£1,440.00	
Default cheques	<u>£575.00</u>	£7,795.00

**National Schools regional round**

		£3,875.00
<b>Summer Camp</b> August 2014		£11,085.00
<b>Goalden Globes</b> June 2014		£320.00
<b>End of Season Festival</b> 7.6.14		£1,550.00
<b>Satellite Academies Festival</b> 18.4.15		£365.00
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		£16.00

**£74,016.15**

**EXPENDITURE**

**Netball Performance League**

Venue hire	£2,100.00	
Coaching incl. expenses	£6,000.00	
Umpiring expenses	£1,576.22	
Kit	£701.89	
Match expenses	<u>£5,207.82</u>	£15,585.93

**Regional Academies**

Venue hire	£6,548.24	
Strength & Conditioning	£3,630.00	
Support coaches expenses	£1,279.20	
NPFL July 2014	£1,667.79	
Academy kit	<u>£680.00</u>	£13,805.23

**Leagues**

Open (ex Umpiring)	£1,195.68	
Junior entry tournament	<u>£1,825.73</u>	£3,021.41

**National Schools regional round**

		£2,556.48
<b>Summer Camp</b> August 2014		£10,333.06
<b>AGM/Goalden Globes</b> June 2014		£3,531.99
<b>End of season Festival</b> June 2014		£392.18
<b>Satellite Academies Festival</b> 18.4.15		£955.10

**Technical Support Groups**

Coaching	£853.12	
Competitions	£2,219.29	
Performance	£1,462.98	
Officiating	<u>£9,066.19</u>	£13,601.58

**Bursaries**

		£1,901.25
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**RMB meeting expenses**

		£2,821.82
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**Administration**

		£876.72
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**Miscellaneous**

		<u>£486.80</u>
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TOTAL

		£69,869.55
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**Balance of Income over Expenditure**

		<u>£4,146.60</u>
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**£74,016.15**

## **NETBALL SOUTH**

### **Balance of Accounts as at 30th April 2015**

<b>Deposit account brought forward 30.04.14</b>	£55,878.69	
Plus interest 1.4.15	<u>£44.71</u>	£55,923.40
<b>SRNCA deposit account brought forward 30.04.14</b>	£5,503.75	
Plus interest 1.4.15	<u>£4.40</u>	£5,508.15
<b>Main current account brought forward 30.04.14</b>		£61,006.58
<b>Income 2014/15</b>	£74,016.15	
<b>Expenditure 2014/15</b>	<u>£69,869.55</u>	
<b>Balance of Income over Expenditure</b>		£4,146.60
<b>Umpiring current account</b>		£58.58
<b>SRNCA current account</b>		<u>£462.78</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>£127,106.09</u></b>

**Netball South Umpiring Account as at 30 April 2015**

**INCOME**

Brought forward	£353.24
Netball South	£7,850.00
Course fees	£880.00
B' Award assessments	£280.00
Miscellaneous	£0.14

£9,363.38

**EXPENDITURE**

<u>B' award:-</u>	
Venue hire	£30.00
Resource packs	£78.00
Tutor fees and travel	£332.60
Assessment exp. and fee	<u>£842.80</u>
	£1,283.40
Mentors	£83.20
Play Offs	£393.00
Regional League:-	
Division 1	£2,412.28
Division 2	<u>£4,036.28</u>
	£6,448.56
National Schools	£685.72
Officiating TSG expenses	<u>£410.92</u>
	£9,304.80
Balance carry forward 2015/16	<u>£58.58</u>
	<u>£9,363.38</u>

As ever this year has been busy and challenging on a number of fronts, but a relatively new team has risen to this challenge and delivered a huge number of successful programmes leading to new clubs, competitions and fun netball experiences.

Netball in the South and across the country is driven by the volunteers who work tirelessly at all levels of the sport, the South team is lucky to be able to work with such a dedicated group of people – thank you for all you do and we are looking forward to continuing to deliver netball with you throughout 2015.

Below is a summary of the major programmes delivered during the year.

### **Back to Netball**

This year the NDOs and NDCCs have delivered 32 new Back to Netball Sessions with nearly 1500 participants. The focus with this programme is to gently reintroduce participants to the sport with the main aim being to retain them within netball. The team has been working hard to set up exit routes including; new Back to Netball Leagues, Social Clubs, Netball Now (Pay & Play sessions) as well as directing players to existing provision including traditional club and league set ups.

### **Netball Now**

This is England Netball's 'Pay and Play' offer and is mainly during the early winter and then the summer months to bridge the gap between leagues, allowing players to continue playing throughout the year. There have been 9 Netball Now sessions set up since the programme's inception, with around 200 participants attending. The main selling point of these sessions is the 'no commitment' element - there is no requirement for people to attend each week - giving participants flexibility with their participation. For 2015 onwards it is now possible for organisations to purchase a Licence to deliver Netball Now – if you would like details please contact your NDO or the South Regional Office.

### **Coaching**

#### **Database**

We now have a coach database listing all UKCC qualified coaches who responded to the South Region Coach Survey. If you would like to be added to this list please contact the South Regional Office. This list has helped us to target development and marketing messages at the correct people as well as promote any coaching opportunities directly to coaches.

#### **Coaching Education Courses (UKCC)**

Since June 2014 a number of UKCC courses have been held across the region:

4 UKCC Level 1 courses with 70 participants attending (one course ran as a half course)

Further Level 1 course starting in mid-June fully booked with 20 participants.

4 UKCC Level 2 courses with 75 participants attending (one course ran at 75% due to lack of assessors)

1 Level 2 conversion course with 19 participants.

Further courses are planned for 2015/16 for both UKCC Level 1 and Level 2

#### **Continual Professional Development – (CPD)**

In addition to the coach qualifications, the team has organised a selection of the series of six coach workshops (On the Ball, On the Move, Sharp Shooting, Activate, Getting Physical and Winning the Ball) based on demand across the region.

The team is also working hard with the Regional Management Board to arrange the 'I am the Coach' – engagement day. This is a huge step forward for coach development in the region - the topic of 'performance' was driven from the feedback of the coach survey.

## **CAPS**

This year the following clubs either completed or reaccredited through the CAPS process:

### Bronze

Laurel Park (Berks)  
Marlow Netball Club (S.Bucks)  
Apollo (S.Bucks)  
Purbrook (Hants)  
Didcot (Oxfordshire)  
Kidlington Kites (Oxfordshire)

### Silver

Clan (S.Bucks)  
Applemore (Hants)  
Shooting Stars (Hants)

## **England Netball – South Team Staff**

There has been significant change in personnel within the team – below is a current list of staff working in the South Region. One of the most significant changes this year has been the merger of the two part time roles of Oxfordshire and Berkshire into one full time role, a decision which has certainly seen benefits to efficiency and delivery within the counties.

Regional Manager	Kat Valk (Maternity Cover)
Regional Co-ordinator	Jenny Obin
Performance Pathway Coach	Elly Moore
Berkshire & Oxfordshire NDO	Lois Rideout
Buckinghamshire NDO	Joanne Odro (3 days per week)
Hampshire & IOW NDO	Carey McCormick
Sussex NDO	Stacey Boxall

Netball Development Community Coaches (NDCCs)	
Buckinghamshire	Geri Moore
Southampton	Debbie Laycock

## **County Reports - Berkshire**

Berkshire Netball has once again had a very successful season. The success of netball within our County is due to the many players, coaches, umpires, league administrators, team managers, club managers, scorers and other volunteers who give up so much of their time to ensure there are plenty of opportunities for our members to participate in netball in whatever capacity they choose to. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in netball in some way during the 2014/15 season and also to the members of the Board who have worked tirelessly throughout the year. We have welcomed some new Board members this year who have been a great addition to the team.

Berkshire Netball has been busy this year in a number of ways:-

- Run a very successful indoor Junior league which attracts teams from outside of the County as well as within Berkshire
- Run an end of season Junior rally for U11s-U16s
- Provided financial support for Level 1 and 2 Coaches to gain their qualifications
- Provided financial support to Umpires to achieve their awards
- Organised a Berkshire Netball Awards evening attended by over 500 people to celebrate the successes and achievements of people within Berkshire
- Held trials for our Satellite and County Academies with South selectors in attendance
- Run two Satellite Academies and one County Academy for 60 talented young players, some of whom have been invited to attend Regional Academy training camps/sessions
- Sent two Satellite Academy squads and two County Academy squads to the Regional Academy Festivals
- Organised and run the County round of the National Schools competition, with two of our schools representing the County and the Region at National Schools Finals. Wellington Under 14s finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and Wellington Under 19s finished joint 5<sup>th</sup> overall
- Provided bursaries to help support talented athletes within the Performance Pathway
- Provided bursaries to clubs who attended the National Club Finals; Woodley U16s who won the National Finals and Royals U14s who represented South/Berkshire at the National Finals at the end of May and came 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Provided financial support to Eagles Netball Club when attending play-offs for National Premier League
- Funded Academy coaches to attend the National Coaching Conference in September 2014

We have welcomed a new England Netball Development Officer, Lois Rideout, who has been a great asset and has been very busy working to support the Board and to launch new England Netball initiatives within the County, including Netball Now, as well as continuing to support new and existing clubs with their CAPS accreditation. We have also enjoyed working with Netball South and are grateful for the support and advice provided by the South Board as well as Jenny Obin and Kat Valk when dealing with various matters during the course of the year.

We are looking forward to building on these successes next season and continuing to support our members in the best way we can.

### **Sarah Feast – Chair**

<b>Hampshire</b>
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HNA has had a very positive season 2014-15. We have a new NDO (Carey McCormick) who joined us in September 2014 and is a member of a very proactive committee.

### **County Plan**

The county plan has been reviewed and all objectives were met or exceeded.

We have 2 new junior clubs and 2 new CAPS clubs. Although we have 3 less senior clubs, membership has increased from 4568 to 4665 members. The number of primary schools affiliated has increased from 81 to 93 and secondary schools from 69 to 75.



## **Competition**

HNA has successful Senior and Junior Leagues running with no problems. The committee reviewed the leagues and going into next season we plan a second division in the senior league to increase participation. We have worked with HSC and all school competitions were supported with personnel and officials.

## **Officiating**

Carol Williams continued to work with officials. During the year the HNA has held 6 courses, 3 for Beginner and 3 for C award. A total number of 92 people attended these courses and are working towards their qualifications. In addition 3 C Courses have been run for local leagues with a further 45 people attending. 23 umpires passed their Beginner Awards and 15 umpires passed their C Awards.

Working with the region we encouraged our umpires who were working towards their B awards to attend a B course of which there was 1 held during the year in the region. 3 umpires attended from Hampshire and will now carry on working towards the B award.

5 umpires have taken their written assessments for the B award and passed during the year, while 1 umpire from Hampshire took their A Award written assessment.

Hampshire Umpires have also been very much a part of the Regional Schools round which this year was held in Farnborough and also at National Schools which was held in Cheshire. They also give up their time to support our armed forces in a number of their competitions in the year. I would like to thank all our umpires for their continued support.

## **Bench Officials**

With regards to match bench officiating we had a number of people attend a Regional theory evening tutored by Carol Alexander and with 14 participants in total from the region. They are now completing their practical part of the course. There are another 14 people in the region waiting for the second course to be run. Of these 13 are from Hampshire.

## **Academies**

The County and Satellite academies have been the area of focus this season. This has been co-ordinated by Sarah Ellard and, despite lack of timely information from EN, the programme ran very well, with all girls on the programme being escalated to RA or CA and some being kept on the CA and SA programmes. Kit was purchased and the girls look and feel part of the academies which helped to enhance their performance. Selection was by way of a festival, which was successful and will be the same system but earlier this coming season.

## **B2N and NN**

Back to Netball and Netball Now sessions continue to be run by the NDCC and NDO and have grown in all areas in Hampshire. There have been over 1100 Back to Netball participants, and over 200 netballers participating in Netball Now in Southampton, Portsmouth and Alton.

## **Hampshire Goiden Globes**

HGG was a very successful evening held at the Village in Farnborough.

Winners of all leagues received their medals and winners from all categories have been put forward to relevant categories for the Netball South Goiden Globe Awards.

## **Finance**

HNA has supported the development of the Academies.

All local leagues were offered courses for First Aid and PCYP courses. To date only one league has run these.

Bursaries continue to be awarded in support of members undertaking courses.

## **CPD Courses**

CPD Courses have been run in Hampshire including 2 x High 5s with 20 learners on each and On the Move with 12 learners.

## **Website**

The website continues to be in progress and we are going to work with NS on the development of a new website.

## **Chris Granger - Chair**

### **Isle of Wight**

Overall it has been a successful and steady year for the Isle of Wight.

The Friday night Social Netball is still going strong with a steady increase in numbers and a cohort of committed participants. I'd like to make a special mention to Carol O'Brien and Mandy Piner for their continued hard work, which has a huge influence on the success of these evenings.

In succession to previous years the satellite academy has once again run for another season with the continued support of our development officer/ head coach Ann Selby. My thanks to her and her team for their continual efforts. The U14s satellite players took the opportunity to attend the play day at Chichester and received some positive feedback, which we hope to work on in the near future. The older girls will be attending their play day shortly. I would like to thank the Regional Management Board for their generous donation to help fund and support this academy.

The Gwyn Foster Academy for the development of our younger players has proven to be very popular with a regular turnout of enthusiastic girls. Linda Morris has been the backbone of this academy and I wish to congratulate her and her team on their achievements with the participants.

We are very grateful to the region for arranging a High 5 coaching course on the Island.

We have two newly qualified Beginner Umpires.

Over the season we have organised:

- The Friday night Social Netball Evenings
- IW Senior League & Junior Leagues
- IW Senior & Junior Tournaments
- Five primary school High 5 Cluster Tournaments including a finals competition.
- The County Round of the National Schools Competition.
- Gwyn Foster Development Academy for players aged 11-14
- Satellite Academy

As in previous years the Isle of Wight is planning to conclude the season with its annual summer league for senior players.

Yet again I would like to thank the Isle of Wight Committee in its entirety for its continued hard work and support.

## **Roz Davitt - Chair**

## South Bucks

It's been another successful year for South Bucks netballers. We have new teams entered into our local leagues; and Phoenix U13 & Clan U19 won the SR leagues.

Kingsmead Netball Centre is home to:

- Winter League – adult & junior teams
- Summer League - adult & junior teams
- High Wycombe Junior Club – approx. 120 girls per week attend
- Club training
- Back to Netball sessions
- Bucks New Uni – training and matches

In addition the Chalfont League runs throughout the year with 12 teams.

Plans for the coming year:

- Umpiring – more C, B and A award umpires
- Umpiring – C award assessors
- Coaching – more Level 1 and Level 2 coaches
- County Academy & Satellite Academy
- Development Squad for U14s
- Continue to grow our local Adult and Junior leagues

We have recently refurbished Kingsmead Netball Centre following a poor risk assessment. We have no further updates on the proposed new motorway junction near the centre. We have approached Wycombe District Council for an extension to our lease that is due to finish in a few years' time.

Wycombe District Council are progressing well with the new sports centre at J4 M40, we will be talking to the Council to ask them to mark up netball courts in the sports hall. We are hoping that the facility can hold at least 2 courts, maybe 3.

If anyone would like to hire Kingsmead Netball Centre for tournaments (8 courts and clubhouse available) please contact:

[kingsmeadbookings@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kingsmeadbookings@hotmail.co.uk)

**Chantel Moore – Chair**

## North Bucks

During the last year, North Bucks has gone through a time of transition, with the Chairman, Sachel Grant, having to step down as she took on a new role within England Netball. We also had a new Netball Development Officer – Joanne Odro.

Despite some of the resource challenges we have had great successes which have been supported by the County:

- Our Performance Academies have been extremely successful both being headed up by experienced NPL assistant coaches. Our athletes did extremely well in the South Region festivals held in Chichester. We have athletes who attend the Regional and Regional Performance Academies within Netball East and this year one of our athletes has been selected in the National Academy Programme and another as a potential athlete.
- Congratulations to Anita Doughty who successfully became a B Award umpire.
- We have had a record number of learner umpires assessed.
- A young umpire passed her C award and will be fast tracked to move onto her B qualification.
- A number of coaches attended Make the Game Live Conference – thank you Netball South for your support.
- We have seen a growth in participation to the Back to Netball programme and we look forward to seeing those participants form their own club or integrate in other established clubs.
- Congratulations to the Aylesbury High School who represented Bucks in the National Schools finals (Under 16).
- Congratulations to MK Netters whose teams represented North Bucks in the various Regional Leagues.
- Congratulation to Gilly Bettis who won Unsung Hero for Leap (the Bucks & Milton Keynes Sports Partnership) Awards.
- A new website is now up and running and an increased presence on Social Media is evident (in particular Facebook and Twitter).

Moving forward we will look to create project bursaries for projects that work in line with our County Plan. Also we would like to increase participation within our youth at all levels across the county.

### **Carolyn Davis – Interim Chairman**

## **Sussex**

The success of netball within Sussex is due to all of the volunteers who give their time to ensure that the membership has access to a variety of netball opportunities.

However you are involved netball would not happen without you, so thank you!

It's been a year of change for Sussex, with a new development officer in post, but we've been busy.

The number of clubs affiliated in Sussex has risen to 107, with 1495 adults and 1222 juniors currently affiliated. Sussex has also seen an increase in the number of primary schools, to 79, and secondary schools, to 62 this year, showing that our engagement within the education sector is improving.

Sussex has hosted one UKCC Level 1 and one UKCC Level 2 course this year, with a total of 16 Sussex coaches attending. High 5 workshops have proved popular but Sussex has struggled to fill other CPDs. Having spoken to coaches, the county is hoping to offer more variety to coaches, including both the Shooting and Strength and Conditioning workshops.

Sussex has run 5 beginner and 4 towards C courses with 88 and 54 attending respectively. 7 beginner assessments have taken place, with 7 qualifications awarded, and 19 C award assessments have taken

place with 19 qualifications awarded. Due to demand, a Youth Umpire Orientation workshop was also run and well received by 15 teachers from across the county.

Sussex, with some support from the South, has funded the qualification of 2 new officiating tutors who will be able to support the long term growth and development of officiating within the county.

Moving forward, Sussex hopes to address and increase the number of conversions from course attendance to qualifications.

Sussex has been keen to support the development of clubs, and individuals and has opened up the county bursary to offer more opportunities. As a result of the county bursary, this year Sussex has supported clubs and individuals to:

- Gain coaching qualifications (Level 1 or Level 2)
- Attend officiating courses and/or assessments
- Purchase equipment such as bibs and training balls
- Attend the national coaching/officiating conference
- Offer safeguarding training to team parents

The academy programme has gone from strength to strength this year, again developing the skill of 60 talented young players. This year Sussex has also seen a standout number of u14s progressing into the u16 academy at the December reshuffle. Cross county fixtures have been played against Hampshire & Surrey, and a selected squad of u14s also attended the regional festival in Chichester on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, with Sussex taking home the 'United' award, and Sussex player Shelby Harris taking home the 'Fearless' award.

Working with funding initiatives such as Sportivate and Satellite Club funding, Sussex has also been able to support the creation of a new junior club, and the development of 2 existing junior clubs. We are particularly proud of the Eastbourne Junior Netball club who have been able to provide netball to 33 juniors who had no netball available to them previously.

County run tournaments have also shown the great work that junior clubs are presently doing in the county, with 10 clubs engaged and over 500 juniors taking part.

#### **Stacey Boxall – Netball Development Officer**

### **Oxfordshire**

Oxfordshire Netball has, through a difficult year, continued to develop. Although the Board has not had a full complement of volunteers, with the help of the newly appointed Development Officer, Lois Rideout, and the hard work of volunteers, participation and satisfaction have continued to increase. Oxfordshire has continued to review its governance to ensure the policies, procedures and the Board structure is fit for purpose. It is hoped that a new Board and governance will be voted in at our next AGM in July. These new structures will enable the Board to more fully meet the needs of netball in the County and increase the support available to all volunteers.

Oxfordshire Netball would like to take this opportunity to thank Lesley Williams (Chair - Oxfordshire Netball League), Deborah Horne (Umpire Secretary - Oxfordshire Netball Development Board) and Sue Blackshaw (Facilities Co-ordinator - Oxfordshire Netball Development Board), who have decided to step down. They have all given a great many years to Oxfordshire Netball and everyone owes them a huge debt of gratitude to the work they have done.

#### **Caroline Robbins – Chair**