



BERKSHIRE NETBALL MANAGEMENT BOARD
Minutes of Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursday 22 June 2023

Present:	Sarah Feast (SF)	Chair & Development
	Julie Arnold (JA)	Secretary
	Charlotte Maxfield (CM)	Treasurer
	Kate Maxfield (KM)	Competitions
	Mary Stanley (MS)	Umpiring
	Kerry Grundy (KG)	Coaching
	Debbie Horn (DH)	Publicity
	Debbie Spindlow (DS)	NDO

1. **Apologies for Absence**

None

2. **Conflicts of Interest**

None

3. **Minutes of Last Meeting – 17 March 2023**

Accepted as a true account of the meeting.

4. **Matters Arising**

8. Coaching (21.03.22) – KG/DS/SF had not met to discuss next steps when coaches have attended courses. Action ongoing. **Action: KG/DS/SF**

5. Chair Report (24.10.22) - SF had circulated to all Board members information relating to the Adventure Strategy and Governance. This matter is now becoming urgent and Toni Brunsdon (NS Vice Chair) has agreed to support the County in getting our position up to scratch. Action ongoing. **Action: SF**

6. Competition Report (24.10.22) - KM had raised concerns regarding a particular Club with regards to umpiring/coaching etc. DS has contacted the relevant Club but SF was unsure as to what progress had been made. **Action: DS**

5. **Chair's Report**

SF reported that following issues raised from the Berkshire Premier League, as to which Club would be eligible to participate at the Netball South Regional Play-Offs,

Royals had gone through. Although Initially they were unsuccessful, they had now qualified due to a team withdrawal.

SF then reported on the Netball South One Awards and was delighted to report that a high number of nominees were from Berkshire with the following winners: Mary Stanley in the Community Officer section and Lisa Wayman in the Coach of the Year (Children and Young Persons) section, Liz Creighton in the Coach of the Year (Adults) section. Kate Maxfield and Tina Berenger were awarded with Long Service Awards. The National Awards Finals are scheduled for Saturday 14 October. The Courts at Theale Green School are scheduled to be resurfaced during the course of the Summer.

There is a new venue being opened at the Rivermead Leisure Centre in Caversham which SF will be visiting in the near future.

The Medway LC in Tilehurst has been refurbished although it appears it does not now have netball court lines in the sports hall.

6. **Competitions Report**

KM reported that the Junior League had been completed in March. Summer League is taking place using 3 venues. Work is beginning on the Winter League for 2023/2024. KM has found a venue in Newbury so that Newbury Juniors do not have to travel too far afield all the time. We will be subsidising some of the Clubs as in previous seasons. There are also Clubs joining the League from outside of the County as their own do not necessarily have an appropriate level of competition.

7. **Finance Report**

CM reported that the Finance Audit for 2021/2022 has finally been signed off. Due to issues with her laptop the 2022/2023 accounts have only just been drafted and a new laptop has been purchased. SF reported that as we are in a fairly healthy position financially it was agreed that the Berkshire Membership Fee for 2023/2024 would remain at zero and hopefully would be ratified at the AGM. DH asked what the EN Membership Fees would be.

Post Meeting Note: EN Membership Fees will be as follows:

Over 18s	£39
Under 18s	£18
Under 14s	£10
Under 11s	£7
Social & Supporting	£15
Secondary Schools	£27.50
Universities	£180

8. **Development & Performance Report**

SF reported that PDP sessions have now been completed following the Bedfordshire Invitational Tournament where the U15s finished 3rd and U13s 9th. Several athletes involved in the U15 School Games training have made it to the final cut from which the competition squad will be selected. U15 PDP trials will take place at the end of

June with an unprecedented number of over 90 athletes attending. Surrey Storm will use this session to screen athletes for the U17 trials in September. U13 PDP trials will take place in September.

SF also reported that she has signed the necessary agreement with EN for the forthcoming season.

9. **Coaching Report**

KG did not have anything to report. SF reported that there was a concern with coaching in Schools as there appears to have been a drop off of the number of girls playing netball, due to exposure to other sports, so we need to create a plan on how we can get girls back into the game.

10. **Umpiring Report**

MS reported that during the course of the season 67 umpires had been assessed at the Into Officiating Level and 25 umpires had been assessed for their C Award. We have welcomed new Into Officiating Assessors and will work with them to progress their pathway. MS reported that there appears to have been an issue with LARFs not reaching Umpires, so EN are investigating,

11. **Publicity/Website Report**

DH did not have anything to report but did point out that we need to create a new logo following the rebranding by EN. SF responded that she believed EN would be providing some guidance, and as yet, that had not happened. SF praised DH for all the stuff that she was currently getting out on social media. SF then commented on the recently held Wiltshire Netball Festival where there had been an open tournament, walking netball and back to netball events held and had had discussions with DS to consider working on a similar project to be held in Berkshire next year. MS & JA had attended this event and confirmed it was a well attended event which had raised a huge amount of money for 3 different charities.

There was then a general discussion on County One Awards before the Regional One Awards and how we encourage more nominations to be made.

12. **NDO Report – Debbie Spindlow**

DS reported that Walking Netball, Back to Netball and Netball Now sessions were going well, with new ones recently being set up in Reading. DS then outlined the KPIs she has to hit and why she makes the decisions on her programme that she does. her main targets include New to Netball, Retention (someone attending more than one session), Targeting Lower Social Economic Groups and Income. Another target is to get 275 new people playing netball who haven't played in the last 12 months, making sure 70% of those attend more than one session, and target 40 participants from LSEG areas.

Her next big project over the Summer is targeting LSEG in Slough and Get Berkshire Active have provided some funding to help deliver this. There is a Family Fun Day being held in Slough on 9 July which will involve Slough Netball Club and the aim

is to encourage members to attend Level 1 or Level 2 coaching courses. She would also look to do some Leadership Training with some members of the club and local schools. DS asked for some help with a light introduction to Officiating. A discussion was also held with regard to funding in relation to getting some budding coaches qualified so that they could help run Back to Netball sessions on DS's behalf. SF suggested she put a proposal forward to the Board asking exactly what it would be that she would need. **Action: DS**

Finally she reported that there are 3 Summer Camps arranged and although the 11 to 14 Yr Old sessions have good numbers we need to target more 9 to 11 Yr Olds.

13. **Bursary Applications**

a) JA had received one Bursary Application asking for support to the Asian/Black/Muslim Communities in the High Wycombe/Maidenhead area. The matter was discussed and it was agreed that they should approach Get Berkshire Active to see if they could assist. DS agreed to contact the applicants and have an initial discussion on development before any funding was approved. **Action: DS**

b) SF then reported on the request from Berkshire Premier Netball League to assist in funding the cost of indoor venues. KM has aided them in finding indoor venues and they now have a better idea how much these will cost. She also felt that as we have supported Junior netball in the County for a long time that perhaps now is the time to aid the Seniors a bit more. As the League would need to increase their fees substantially to achieve indoor netball it was felt that that we should aid this for a season. The Board agreed to their request and JA would contact the BNPL directly. **Action: JA**

14. **Any Other Business**

AGM - It was agreed to try and find a location for the AGM, rather than hold it via Zoom. The date was set for Thursday 31 August 2023.

15. **Date of Next Meeting**

AGM – 31st August 2023