



Wiltshire County Netball Association Annual General Meeting

**Devizes Town Hall
9th June 2025**

Attendees:

Mireille Drayton (Chair)	Janice Bardwell (Disciplinary)
Sally Ruddle (Treasurer)	Anna Young (Wiltshire Netball Development)
Tracy Watt (Performance & Coaching Lead)	
Cathy Caulfield (Communication & Media)	Kelly Smith (Salisbury Chair)
Helen Maine (Events)	Denise Sell (Swindon Chair)

Wiltshire Netball Clubs: Abbeymeads, Blue Jays, Burmah, Calne, Corsham, Croft, Delta, Devizes, Downton Diamonds, Fitz, Fairford, Holt, Lawn, Melksham, Moonraker, Moredon, Nationwide, Pawsey's, Pinehurst, Raychem, Royal Wotton Bassett, Spire, Swans, Synergy, Team Doris, TNC, West Harnham, Westbury.

	Agenda Item	Discussion / Description / Action
1	Welcome	Mireille Drayton welcomed everybody to the meeting.
2	Apologies	Caroline Cavanagh Hayley Hardie (Moonraker Chair) West Harnam NC Fairford NC Synergy NC
3	2023/2024 Minutes	Mireille confirmed that the previous year's minutes had been circulated prior to the AGM. Mireille continued with the meeting, asking for confirmation that the minutes were a true and accurate record. Proposed- Janice Bardwell Seconded- Denise Sell
4	Strategic Planning	MD shared PPT – see attached e mail document WCNA have listened and our aim has been to re-invest back into our Leagues. Membership fees annually are less than £3,500. 98% of this has gone back into the league during the 2024 to 2025 season. Umpiring and mentoring support has been a key area with funding to support the roll out of the revised rules and £200 has been given to all three leagues to help with mentoring officials through the summer. All adult regional Clubs received funding. and one NPL player received some financial support. We are trying to share more about how we are spending the money. MD asked all 3 leagues what their priorities are for coming season. EN has a 10-year strategy, our priorities have a lot of similarities with the EN strategy. Common themes – 5 key priorities.



1. Strengthening support for officials. EN have not had many courses this season due to personnel issues, but this is now resolved. But what can we do to support people who already have qualifications, mentoring and ongoing development.

2. Coaching development. WCNA are working with Level 3 coaches to offer support to coaches at a Team, Club and Coach level. Initial idea is to offer three sessions this year, possibly virtually that focus on Pre-season (early September), 1 x mid (Dec) and one in Feb with a focus on the final push towards the end of the season. The programme is likely to grow and will be designed to be coach centric with sessions designed around input from club coaches, both junior and senior.

Suggested foci could be.

Team support could be – defensive units, individual player development, attacking principles...

Coaches – help with session planning, team analysis, trends, observe a coaching session, or give pointers to coaches, match day observation...

Club – creation of club goals, working with committees...

3. Increasing the numbers of juniors, how much netball is happening in schools? often depends on school strengths. EN are focusing on Bee Netball – any ideas are welcome

4. Lack of funding and facilities – all leagues have issues with their facilities. Devizes have had courts resurfaced and AY and MD were looking to support them with an EN bid but a local agreement was made which was great. Janice Bardwell offered some insight from a Wiltshire perspective. She asked how many have interacted with your area board? This is the way the Wiltshire council are set up to have a community area they each look after. Every town in Wiltshire have a board and they have a pot of money they give out in grants. All 3 boards checked have young people on their criteria. RWB and Cricklade, they have bought new posts, have collapsable ones they can fold up. Paid for 30 sets of tops etc for their juniors. Really worth getting engaged, as they often pay for big projects. Any advice please get in touch with Janice. Parish or town councils, sometimes have funding as well. Will need to find out what is in Swindon.

Link – on e-mail as an attachment

Increasingly less people are willing to commit to voluntary roles – we do not have a vice chair or secretary, what can we do to encourage people into these roles?

Action - MD stressed the need to ensure with umpiring that people doing the courses, carry on the process and update CC (COL) or KA/LOLs so they can continue to get support and finalise qualifications.



		<p>Post It activity to gauge ideas and suggestions about the 5 key priorities above. These will support the detail in the revised strategic planning document for WCNA and will be shared with League Chairs over the summer. MD thanked those present for their contributions.</p> <p>WCNA Fundraising this year has been linked to the NetVets and the U/16 playoffs. We raised £500 for Epilepsy and £80 for BEAT Eating Disorders which we are proud of and in particular Lucy's Story.</p> <p>We have a NetballHer section on our website where we want more amazing stories from our netball community, like that of Lucy's. This is an area that we would like to really promote and celebrate across our netball community moving forward.</p> <p>Action - Please send to Cathy Caulfield or Mireille Drayton case studies for NetballHer or successes and information that can be shared and promoted on our WCNA website. www.wiltsnetball.co.uk</p>
5	<p>NDO Update</p>	<p>Anna's slides are attached with the e mail with minutes</p> <p>Walking Netball is now high throughout Wiltshire. Walking netball being one of the biggest areas of new players to netball. Have a new group in Chippenham and Trowbridge. Anna worked closely with the council in Chippenham, in a church hall, engaged the community for free sessions, charity supported with hall and council with refreshments. This is now still running. Looking at other areas to see if can work with other charities.</p> <p>Council hosted a Walking Netball host course, including paying for venue and trainer. Means our sessions that are already running, now have more people and can succession plan, to help support the sessions. WASPs in Swindon helped fund a session in Swindon as well.</p> <p>In February there was a WN festival, 2 different sessions, In it to win it or fun for inclusivity.</p> <p>Back to netball – not had a session for a long time in Wiltshire.</p> <p>Salisbury league – had a lot of challenges with commercial leagues – set up a back to netball. Unfortunately, the Friday night slot it was ran on, was not very successful, just couldn't get traction on the numbers. Signposted people to clubs where needed.</p> <p>Netball youth camps – help fund the NDO salary. These are running again this year and have been successful.</p> <p>Bee netball is a priority. EN priority was Super league this year. The next area could be Bee netball. Looking at year 3 & 4. To try and get into the younger years. See what other benefits Bee</p>



Netball has to school attendance and mental health. Under school game organisers, for bee netball.

Action - Please let Anna or Mireille know if any issues and see if it can link into league support.

New Gender & participation policy – further info/questions can be gained from **the links on the PPT attached SLIDE 5**

Learning & Development – Courses are now up and running. Way to get onto a course, is to do an expression on interest. Click on the links and complete the form. This will put you on the priority list, might not go on the website. Does not mean you are committed just that you will get priority for the courses.

Qn KK (Lawn) Asked if umpiring will come away from online, and be back to face to face. This might help clear the back log. AY – no plans at the moment to do face to face. There is a strong desire to clear the backlog.

DS (Nationwide)– people are completing online expressions of interest and not hearing anything – not receiving the emails? Done 5 times?

AY- EN are looking at if they need to prioritise coaches or umpires. Eg. If a coach is leaving – if you need to get a level 2 coach as there is risk to club closing, this could be bumped up on the EN waiting list.

TW – sometimes location can discourage people – if not local, they will not attend.

AY – some sessions are now virtual; level 2 has one weekend face to face.

KK – can they not include more people on the virtual courses?
AY – there are still ratios. EN are trying to increase the number of courses.

Can now request a chat with a EN facilities Development Manager – can help if need support with facilities. See Anna's Slides – **slide 7**

One Award Nominees – Nominations has gone out. Regional winners – 28th June at a regional event. Thank you to those who nominated.

Membership – There are benefits – NetballHer has a lot of information. Worth going on to have a look on the site. There is a link on the Wiltshire netball website. Our biggest challenge is getting it out to members. Lots of information around all challenges for women, starting periods, menopause, pre and post-partum.



		<p>As an EN member you can get access to discounts by using a code that was emailed on 21st January. If you cannot find it, email EN. This may renew in September 2025 when membership renews. More information on PPT slides 9, 10 and 11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grand Final Super league – Still some tickets available. • Coaching FB page – helpful for support. • Inclusive kit guidance – about having other options to a dress. • Reminders of all requirements for Clubs and Coaches on slide 14.
6	<p>Player pathway</p>	<p>Tracy – Has sent her report. Success story has been that all players have a PDP in the south of the county. 2 x u13 PDP teams and an U15 PDP. Counties are responsible for the U13 and U15. Been hard to get up and running in Amesbury but numbers are growing. Have a Futures – to stop athletes dropping out and these run outside of the EN pathway.</p> <p>Swindon – U15 player in the long squad NPL U 15 – unbeaten in regional tournament U13 – had a great day at regional tournament</p> <p>Currently in middle of trials. Still looking for both ages in Salisbury.</p> <p>Coming up against competition. Now no Team Bath (they are running U15 to U23). NPL groups, they sit in EN pathway. We see a number of businesses or coaches setting up their own academies. Athletes on pathways don't get much match play, maybe need county matches. Only play is from their clubs.</p> <p>We are one of the few counties that don't have a junior or county league. If we want to get juniors into netball, might need this in place?</p> <p>Success Stories Thea Rhodes – been on bench for Celti Dragons Molly Whole – back into playing for England roses pathway – Supported by Loughborough Uni to get through her injury.</p> <p>Coaches welcome to come along and watch the trials. See what they are focusing on and how it works.</p>
7	<p>Receive Statement of Accounts</p>	<p>Sally is now treasurer. Statement of account has already been sent out. We are in a healthy place with our balance currently.</p>



		<p>Sally has moved some money to a savings account, to earn interest to help pay for bank account fees.</p> <p>A lot of the focus this year has been looking at the county expenditure. The county has been heavily subsidising the Netball Development Pathways for a number of years which is not sustainable. We need to look at ways of funding this, to make sure the pathways pay for themselves, and to ensure they can continue and that the county does not run out of money. Our focus has been to reduce expenditure and increase income so that the Pathways break even. A minimum of 25 sessions are included on each pathway and the fees increase to £245 (7 x £35 monthly payments) means that the fee is less than £10 per session.</p> <p>Will still want to work to get more feedback from pathways to the clubs. So that coaches know what is being worked on and what they need to develop further with their athletes within their clubs.</p> <p>It will be helpful if we have local coaches to support the Amesbury sessions moving forward. This will help with finances.</p> <p>Although pathways are great and offer a great opportunity to athletes, the costs to the county have to be sustainable.</p>
8	<p>Accounts Moving Forward</p>	<p>County fee will not change. £3- O18, £1- U18- U14, U11 -Free.</p> <p>NSW no change</p> <p>EN have not released their fees as yet, but they are likely to increase in line with CPI.</p>
9	<p>Officers Reports</p>	<p>Mireille introduced committee and asked if there were any questions on the reports below that were circulated prior to the AGM.</p> <p>Chair Report (Mireille Drayton) Officiating Report (Caroline Cavanagh) Salisbury League Report (Kelly Smith) Swindon League Report (Denise Sell) Moonraker League Report (Hayley Hardie) Treasurer Report (Sally Ruddle) Coaching & Performance Report (Tracy Watt) Competition and Events (Helen Maine)</p> <p>Finally, we are through the post covid slump and netball seems to be growing again. Swindon have 5 new teams from September. Seems similar across all leagues. Netvets ran again this year and was a success.</p> <p>No questions raised.</p>
10		<p>Small change in constitution linked to EN Gender Policy Rule 2.2 – add on the EN Gender and equality policy</p>



	Amendments to Constitution	Proposed- Kelly Smith (Salisbury Chair) Seconded- Laura Holt (Lawn)
11	Committee vacancies	Vacancies for Secretary and Vice Chair. MD has been covering but this isn't sustainable long term. Training will be given and lots of support. Action - WCNA will advertise again and hope that someone will come forward and we can appoint at a later date.
12	Election of Officers	Officers Willing to stand: Chair (Mireille Drayton) Secretary (Vacancy) Performance & Coaching (Tracy Watt) Disciplinary Officer (Janice Bardwell) Safeguarding (Corrine Hunter) Media & Communication (Cathy Caulfield) Schools (Sophie Newman) Competition & Events (Helen Maine) Sophie Bingham (School) Proposed- Marie Thompson (Moredon) Seconded- Karen Kilderry (Lawn)
14	AGM Date 2025	AGM 2026 Monday 8th June 2026 Confirmed as the date next year.
	Thank you	Mireille thanked everyone for their support and efforts over the 24/25 season and stated our intentions to continue to work in partnership to support our leagues and members into the new season. AOB – Frome NC is looking for a level 2 coach for next season. 3 senior teams in the Moonraker league. MEETING CLOSED at 20.54