



Cheshire County Netball Association AGM 11th June 2013, Monks Sports and Social Club, Warrington

Attendees:

Karen Fenlan	Chester NC
Kath Ebbrey	Chester NC
Leanne Webster	Chester NC
Pam Lucas	Chester NC
Sam Rigby	Chester NC
Clare McFarlane	Pink Ladies
Sue Day	Independant
Nikki Kendrick	Pink Ladies NC
Dave Chadwick	Sandbach NC
Viv Chadwick	Sandbach NC
Richard White	Didsbury NC
Kev Rowley	Didsbury NC
Liz Rowley	Didsbury NC
Julian Whitworth	Wilmslow NC
Debbie Whitworth	Wilmslow NC
Phil Owen	Knutsford NC
Estelle Graham	Warrington NC
Chris Brien	Alloy NC
Fiona Rose	Independant
Fran Bristow	Independant
Graham Taylor	Imagin8

1. Apologies – Ladyhawk

Emma Pike
Alsager NC

2. Minutes of Meeting from AGM 2012

True records of AGM mins Dave Chadwick Proposer Fran Bristow, seconder

Reports – Chair

Dear Cheshire Member

The 2012/13 season has been a very successful one for Cheshire. In September we selected 180 girls from all over the county to be in the County Academies, which included two Under 19 academies. In addition we scouted girls into the U12 county Academy with 20 new Year 7s brought in for monthly training and match play opportunity.

County Squads & Satellite Squad Training

The Academies trained fortnightly and the satellites monthly and each squad travelled to Merseyside for the NCL fixture in March, so coaches could assess each player's development



after they had played in Cheshire in October. We ran a Festival for all girls in January where all the girls played in at least 2 positions and the u12s had their first competitive outing which resulted in three under 14 satellite players moving to Academy making a total of 5 who moved up. Two players also moved up to the u16 squad with two moving out.

The NCL in March saw the first outing for Greater Manchester Academy squads for a number of years and their coaches admitted that they had sorely missed the match play and it showed in the games with the Cheshire Under 19s winning 14-4 and the under 16s winning their match easily.

In February half term we had a fantastic tour to Barbados where the U16's and U19's played the

National squads as well as some local clubs. Players, parents, team managers and the committee worked hard to put this in place and we played a total of 14 matches over the week with both squads having some tough games against the National Squads and Prison and Police Clubs. The Under 19s played the National under 21 squad who are attending the World Championships in August and after a breathtaking fast and physical game it ended all square. The Barbados coaches were pleased with the competition and asked for more games of this standard. Friendships were built with the local opposition and we donated old Thunder kit to the Police Lads and Girls club who run a few teams from their base at Hastings Beach. The party enjoyed some relaxation time with a boat trip on the Jolly Roger, a trip to the Fish markets at Oistins where they enjoyed the Reggae music. A special thanks to Nigel Jordan for arranging a day at the Polo where we watched Cheshire Polo play Barbados Polo in the sunshine and all the pictures taken are on the website.

In May the U14 and U16 played at the Thunderdome against Lancashire and Greater Manchester. Both ended up runners up losing narrowly to Manchester, this being the only defeat the under 16 squad suffered all year.

We held Pre trials for the Under 14's on Saturday 8th June and u16s on 9th June. We will be holding final trials at Widnes Kingsway Leisure indoor Sports centre, on Saturday 7th September. There has been an England Netball directive whereby we will have no more than 20 players in each academy so competition will be fierce for the places. We will be looking to continue strength and conditioning into the county training plan.

The under 16s will be training each week for 30 weeks of the year and training will start on Tuesday 10th September 2013 at Priestley College.

Eighteen players were nominated to attend the North West Festival run by the Regional Talent Coach Karen Greig on 15th June at Wirral Grammar and we wish them all the best. Hopefully they will emulate Rebecca Airey who has played for England U17 at the World Championships winning Gold and been voted the Players Player.



County Plan

The committee has just finished the four year plan and this has been submitted to England Netball. Cheshire were praised as a forward thinking County as we have excellent communication links with the website, facebook and twitter all of which keeps players and parents updated. Cheshire were the only county who were running academies for under 12's and Under 19s and we have a Hardship Fund so that no talented player will be denied the opportunity to play for Cheshire due to finances.

We have been in liaison with Sir Steve Redgrave who is looking to build a large Sports Centre of Excellence for Rowing and Netball by the river at The University of Chester. This is now nearing the planning application stage of the process. Bell developments are the project leads and we have been kept apprised of the progress. Chester Club are also looking to develop a four-hall sports centre along with Chester Rugby club. This is a new venture in its infancy but has great potential.

Cheshire also established links with Chester University where with a reciprocal agreement where by we provided a Cheshire Coach for their squads and they provided Cheshire with a sport hall when Priestly was closed during exams and school holidays.

Cheshire Schools

We supported the Schools helping run all the Schools Tournaments for every age group throughout the season and even helped with the High 5 finals day. A special mention goes to Fallibroome School who won u14 County Tournament and went one better winning the Regional Competition and finished 5th in the whole country a great effort. Wilmslow Under 19s also won the county round and were runners up in the Regionals and so qualified for the national finals.

County Junior Regional League

This was the 2nd Year in this format for the NW with Cheshire having 9 clubs in the new Regional Junior Leagues which saw Chester, Didsbury, Macclesfield Pink Ladies, Wilmslow and Boughton Belles representing the county in the u14 and 16s leagues against teams from Manchester Lancashire Cumbria and Merseyside. All competed well and we have seen the standard rise with NW representatives Oldham, defending their U14 and U16 titles.

County Junior League

The County has again allowed the Junior league to run the qualification for the under 13 and 15 age groups and worked with their Chair Nikki Kendrick to try and take the league forward which has had a few problems with the weather causing a number of cancellations. The league is now looking at moving indoor to guarantee the games will go ahead to help planning but this will be offset with an increase in cost to each club.



County Elite League

The County again supported the Elite League and it has expanded to 16 clubs playing and now into 2 divisions This League is the envy of other counties as we use this for player, club and umpire development and forms the pathway for senior clubs to qualify for the Regional league on the way to the Prem league. Well Done to Merseyside Police who won the premier and the NEWTS Division 1.

Manchester Thunder Superleague

The County did not support Thunder financially but bought into the coaches training package and paid for additional coaches to attend the Sessions taken by Thunder head coach Tracey Neville. We also provided Officials for their home games

Cheshire also bought the player package and a number of girls were chosen to go to the Thunder training days.

We have had a number of girls selected for the Thunder development academy who have had the additional training all year. We had 8 girls selected for the tri festival with Yorkshire and North East hubs during the school holidays all of who were under 13 (Year 8).

Coach Development Fund

We have continued to help our clubs develop by providing £250 maximum to each club who applied for development of their staff ranging from level 2 to first aid to Safeguarding fees. We have sent Coaches to the national Conference and supported our A grade umpires enabling them to attend the National Conferences.

Planning

Following this AGM, we will continue to plan for the next season, working with the NW Regional Board in order to access the Regional training and other opportunities, which could be available to our volunteers, officials and players.

This will mean a number of changes to the format for the season ahead with each coach being supported by team managers and not only looking at the skills of the players but their fitness and core strength which will be measured regularly. We had to dispose of S and C company as they did not adhere to the agreement we had and poor feedback from players and parents. However Hayley Preece stepped in and worked well with the players and after great feedback we will continue with this next season.

England Netball have now delivered a new vision and realized that they need competition for girls from under 16 upwards and are re introducing match play into county academies with 5 opportunities throughout the season. They have also asked that we use their training



plans and session plans for the 30 weeks and to link these to our other training groups, which will now be development pods.

England are also re introducing the Clubs National Under 19 competition and Cheshire will continue to run an Academy at this age and depending on numbers trialling and staff availability we may run two academies as we have this season.

England have also asked for all counties to ensure they have succession planning and whilst we have one of the largest and hard working committees we always welcome new members who are willing to help. I would also like to inform you that after 8 years as Chair of Cheshire that this next year will be my last season

I would like to finish by thanking our hard working committee, coaches, umpires team managers Officials and other volunteers, including the newly-formed Fundraising Committee who put a lot of time and effort into making the whole season run smoothly.

Kevin Rowley -Chair

3. **Reports – Treasurer**

Chris provided an overview.

Questions – Manchester Thunder coaching and player courses only – no sponsorship. Also refunding coaches who wanted to attend Thunder coaches. CB explained about funding training

4. **Reports – Schools**

- County tournaments went ahead although weather did get in the way. Used the Grange (but noted next year they will only have 3 courts).
- Jen working hard with teachers and now has a small team including Alex Lodge.
- Cheshire committee support Jen at events.
- Noted for 2013-14 Cheshire are hosting the regional round of the national schools and Ian Holloway (EN Comp Mgr) is visiting Whitby High today 11/6/13 to look at facilities in order to host the National Finals there.

5. **Reports - CJNL – more teams – ran a regional comp at U13 and U15 in order to qualify.**

Hampered by the weather – looking actively for indoor venue. Improved standard of play. More a competitive league – umpiring improving and developing.

Plan to increase the number of Sundays. CB stated that most clubs want more competitive matches. PO stated need a balance. Kathy (Chester) – stated that depends on the standard – better to play yes but better standard.

CJNL AGM is on the 13th June.

SD stated that junior league is about developing the clubs and their players. It's up to clubs to decide where to play.



6. **Reports - Cheshire website** – good usage – 16000 hits in last 12 months. 33% new users.
To create a tab per squad for next season as the main communication pathway.
All Cheshire based tournaments promoted. Content goes through secretary &/or Chair.
Increased use of twitter. Review use of facebook.
www.cheshirenetball.co.uk

7. Welfare Officer –

Welfare Officers Report : Cheshire Netball 2012 - 13

I suppose in the world of Safeguarding 'no news is good news' and pleased to say that have had a relatively quite year this year with regard to welfare and safeguarding matters!
However couple of things to note;

In May 2012 CRB was replaced by a new Service.

The Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) have merged into the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). CRB checks are now called DBS checks.

A DBS check has no official expiry date. Any information included will be accurate at the time the check was carried out. It is up to an employer to decide if they think a new check is needed.

The DBS disclosure system is managed through our partners TMG DBS and is available to affiliated members of England Netball. For further information then please see a guide I have put on the Cheshire Website, or visit

Visit www.onlinecrb.tmgcrb.co.uk and use the Org Pin 100212

I have undertaken a number of checks on line this year; I recently went to one club who had a coaches / managers meeting where I was sat in another room on a PC verifying their documents and processing their applications. More than happy to do the same so just contact me.

On the 17th of June DBS are introducing a single (applicant-only) Certificate. For a fee of £13 applicants can have their DBS Certificate kept up to date and take it with them from role to role, within the same workforce, where the same type and level of check is required. HOWEVER England Netball are not subscribing to this new Service and will not support the portability of checks.....so an new DBS will be required even if you have recently had one with work or another sporting organisation.



EN have also made available a “Be Safe” poster for you to include your club contact for Safeguarding and then download the poster and display prominently at your club so young players and parents know where to address any concerns; see the EN web site for further details.

Please remember that it is not your duty to investigate a child protection concern, but you do have a duty to report it; safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility. Thanks Phil Owen (07796 997629)

ANY CHESHIRE PEOPLE CAN JUST COME TO PHIL FOR ON LINE CHECKING.

8. Reports – Elite League

Provisional dates and rounds –rules to be reviewed – payment changes due to teams cancelling. Play offs proposed for each section.

Cheshire Elite League

05-Oct	Round 1
12-Oct	Round 2
02-Nov	Round 3
09-Nov	Round 4
23-Nov	Round 5
14-Dec	Round 6
11-Jan	Round 7
18-Jan	Round 8
08-Feb	Round 9
15-Feb	Round 10
08-Mar	Round 12
22-Mar	Round 13
05-Apr	Round 14

The fixtures provisionally booked for the new season at Sir John Deanes and Mid Cheshire college both in Northwich.

Kev asked if clubs wanted play offs – mixed views but suggestion each section has 1v4, 2v3 and final play off.

Fiona Rose to manage this competition for the next season.

9. Reports - NDO Report Sara Bayman (apologies on holiday)

Report to follow.

Noting High 5 festival 12th July at Orford Park.



10. Election of Officers

Chairs	Kevin Rowley (Last year annouced)
Vic Chair	Estelle Graham
Sec	Estelle Graham
Assistant Sec	Fiona Rose
Treasurer	Chris Brien
Assistant Treasurer	Clare McFarlane
Membership	Emma Pike
Competitions	Fiona Rose
Match Officials	Chris McCall
School	Jen Pass
Communications	Estelle / Fiona
Logistics	TBC – Andy Lowe (to be discussed)
Kit Manager	Fran Bristow
Player Performance & Dev	Sue Day
Welfare	Phil Owen
Volunteers / Fundraising	Julian Whitworth
Club Liason	Estelle and Fiona

Non voting members

Chair / Sec from CJNL	tbc confirmed after their AGM
Rep from Cheshire Elite League	Estelle / Fiona / Jill Canfield (JC tbc)
NDO	Sara Bayman
Cheshire East Development group	
Team Manager Liason	Richard White (to assist team managers)

Team voted in unanimously.

11. Any Other Business

- Affiliation fee – cheshire players pay £3.50 and CCNA pay the 50p per player. KR suggests we pay £3 per player. No charge for schools. All agree. New CCNA fee is reduced to £3 per person.
- DC asked about funding from EN – the U16's academy will provide funding dependant on us following their pathway and getting a number in the EXCEL. There will be targets to meet. We have to be put forward a performance set of accounts that have to go to EN along with regional performance accounts. SD stated that Sport England have provided EN strict guidelines in order to qualify for SE funding.

Kathy – Chester - What are we going to do for primary schools? In E/P there is no junior school netball (her area is Ellesmere port). KR provided a summary of the recent history of who managed primary sport. (SSCO etc). Lots of discussion that generally school netball is



not what it used to be. It was noted that it depends on what the teachers are interested in. EG summarised it is on our 'we would like to do' – JP definitely has this on her radar and is going to look locally. Noted Cheshire East take their Y11 to primary schools. Chester Club are running a 6 week course aimed at primary schools. DC stated he has been out to all local schools and there was little interest because the many schools don't run leagues locally in their district. (Noted teachers don't have skills).

12. Notes made during the meeting

- U19 National clubs coming back – one off regional competition arrangements to be confirmed.
- EXCEL 2012 – 2 players got into EXCEL. EN directive – netball first attitude – all players will be registered (lateness and attendance) and Karen Greig will be reviewing. Schools – noted that County comes before schools competition. Management / pressure on the child.
- Sue Day – explained that **academy players selected** there will be an offer of a meeting to discuss and manage players training with parents and club coaches. Log books for each player – explanation of expectations of Excel / England.
- Hardship funds – for the following year, anyone who comes for hardship we will approach schools to use their funds.
- **Committee wanted to formally thank Debbie and Julian Whitworth the work and effort for the food provision during events this year. (Need that willing helpers to assist).**
- KR asked for feedback regards re dresses for county players – conscientious was to keep dresses as part of the uniform.

9.15 pm Meeting Closed.