



Minutes for Meeting Wed 21st Feb 2024 via Zoom

1. **Welcome** given by Debbie Sims (Chair)

2. **Apologies** - Cath Clark (Officiating Lead) Lisa Packer (County Player Development Lead) Jo Templeman (EN Development Officer)

Attended by

Committee

Debbie Sims (Chair) Hollie Wright (Vice Chair and Junior Chair) Michelle Clarke (Secretary) Tanya Contreras (Treasurer) Mel Reynolds (Fixtures Secretary and Membership) Rebecca Divall (County Player Development Lead) Mavis Thorpe (Executive Member and President) Kelly Fuller (Executive Member) Sue Pryor (Executive Member) Chloe Cross-Henley (Social Media Officer)

Clubs

Bridgwater NC -
Frome NC -
Galmington NC -
Keinton NC -
Paulton Rovers NC -
Midsomer Norton NC -
Queens NC -
Stanchester NC -
Taunton NC -
Tor NC -
Walton NC -
Wells NC -
Wildcatz NC -
Yeovil NC -



3. **Conflicts of Interest** - None

4. **Agreement of accuracy of minutes from last meeting dated 7th November 2023** - Agreed

5. **Correspondence** - None

6. **Matters Arising from last meeting dated 7/11/23**

- **Facilities Update** – Action Debbie

(Previously) We are waiting for a date to book in for discussions. An agreement is drafted, yet to be signed by all parties with regard to short term plan and long term plan actions. Strobe courts are in a much better condition now they have been cleaned and the cost came in cheaper than anticipated. Applied for Sport England funding which was declined but now looking at other options and possibility of appealing EN decision in the future.

(Now) An Interim package has been executed involving cleaning of the courts and the longer term plan involves communication between SCNA, Netball SW and Strobe college. We have put in a request for EN funding and will find out in March if successful. In addition to this we may need to look at other forms of fundraising going forward.

ACTION - Debbie Sims

- **Over 40s Tournament (Net Vets)** - Going ahead on the 17th March and Regional Tournament Final date confirmed as 21st April.
- Looking at **possibility of establishing a County wide social league** running over the winter months alongside the winter league across the county. (Previously) The Chair and NDO will be mapping the social leagues that already take place to identify if there is a place for this. Action - Debbie Sims and Jo Templeman
(Now) After looking at the social leagues already in place we are no longer considering this at present. No Further Action

7. **Officers Reports**



- **Treasurer** - Tanya Contreras

A reminder to clubs that if a member has paid for and completed an officiating or coaching course, they can now complete the Senior Expense claim form on the website to get some funding from County.

- **Fixtures & Membership** - Mel Reynolds - No report due to illness but if there is anything important then I will communicate it with you in due course

- **Officiating Lead** - Cath Clark

Since our last meeting the main focus of the sub committee has been the Central Venue day taking place on Saturday 2nd March at Downside School.

I don't think we have had such an extensive Central Venue Day before with so many Assessments, Mentoring and Observations going on.

I have attached the updated version. Out of the 20 games there are only 5 games not being used by the sub committee and mentoring team, which definitely shows this collective approach can work if we have the workforce available. There will be 3 Junior Umpires involved in assessments and mentoring and they will be identified by their red U18 arm band.

A massive thank you to Mel for the work she has done to put the Central Venue Day together.



Central Venue Umpiring / Assessment / Mentoring Schedule

	Inside	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3
9.00	<p align="center">Prem Harlequins v Tone Carly Ridgwell Jade Allen</p> <p align="center">Mentoring Sarah, Jenny & Victoria</p>	<p align="center">Div 1 Bishops v Hendford</p>	<p align="center">Div 2 Pumas v Diamonds Molly Baron Lizi Witeck (Junior)</p> <p align="center">Observation for Allowances Amy</p>	<p align="center">Div 3 Stingrays v Venus Laura Black Freya Clark</p> <p align="center">INTO Assessment Julie & Mavis</p>
10.30	<p align="center">Prem Abbey v Wyndham</p>	<p align="center">Div 1 Spears v Newbarn</p>	<p align="center">Div 4 Jesters v Tudor Katy Bawden Emily Page Symonds Mentoring Amy</p>	<p align="center">Div 1 Sharks v Saturn Lyndsay Smith Rachael Kilby Mentoring Cath</p>
12:00	<p align="center">Prem Tomahawks v Claremont Siobhan Cleverly ■</p> <p align="center">Mentoring Julie</p>	<p align="center">Div 1 Panthers v Queens Amy Squire Gemma Chapman</p> <p align="center">C Assessment Mavis & Sarah</p>	<p align="center">Div 2 Minstrels v Prioory Chloe Cross-H Eve Jenner</p> <p align="center">Observation for Allowances Jenny</p>	<p align="center">Div 3 Thorns v Cheetahs Nic Carter Crissy Paget (Mentoring)</p> <p align="center">Observation for Allowances Amy</p>



13:30	<p>Prem Swans v Newton Hayley Trotman Kerry Nelson</p> <p>Mentoring Sarah/ Cath</p>	<p>Div 3 Darts v Comeytrowe Jon Davis Phillippa McDonald</p> <p>INTO Assessment Becky & Victoria</p>	<p>Div 2 Chalice v Kestrels Denise Evely Nicole Jackson</p> <p>Observation for Allowances Amy</p>	<p>Div 2 Dolphins v Neptune Tyler Lynch Jess Coombs (Junior)</p> <p>Observation for Allowances Julie</p>
3:00	<p>Prem Vipers v Parkfield</p>	<p>Div 3 Canons v Reckleford Ellie Tucker Megan Read INTO Assessment Becky</p>	<p>Div 4 Muskateers v Highfield Chloe Cross Henley Eve Jenner</p>	<p>Div 4 Frome v Brendon</p>

Below are a few action points that all umpires need to be aware of.

- Umpire checks should be conducted together prior to each game, and if a player does then take the court wearing jewellery or items such as a fit bit around their ankle, then umpires should follow the protocol of the player being asked to leave the court, remove the item and then not returning to the court until a goal is scored. This is not a substitution situation.



- INTO Assessments will now all be carried out on a Div 3 Somerset Game. Umpires should be observed on the 2nd quarter and spoken to at half time for anything that needs "attention" the assessment then taking place in the 3rd quarter of the game. ie the first half of the game can be used as mentoring and the second half used as the assessment.
- Each Umpire working towards their award, needs to keep a log book and bring the Log Book to their Assessment.

ACTION - Club Umpiring Secretary's please info your umpires.

- **Performance** - Becky Divall and Lisa Packer

Two more intercounty fixtures have given coaches a chance to benchmark against the Devon and Dorset counterparts, and we have seen huge progress with both U15s and U13s. U13s Wellington group are looking particularly strong this year.

3 Somerset athletes have been selected for U15s Team Bath Schools Games long squad. The final squad will attend the School Games event.

Poor weather conditions have hampered travel to some training sessions, so we are hoping to have a 'mop up' day in the Easter Holidays, where players from all programmes can attend for a day of workshops.

Progression through the pathway

We are reaching over 100 girls in the programme now and are really pleased to have full programmes in all age groups. Thank you so much to schools, coaches and clubs who have approached us as and when they feel they have players who are ready to be screened for the pathway. This fluid approach is paying dividends, with the U14s moving into U15s looking particularly strong.

Trial dates to follow but this season, will be looking to select long squads in May/June and then finalise selections in September.

Affiliation

Still chasing some players for affiliation to England Netball. Considering asking players to provide EN affiliation number at trials this year.



Jersey Tour

A wonderful opportunity to travel to an inter-county U15s tournament in Jersey has arisen in May. Unfortunately, we have not had the uptake from U15s- possibly due to cost of trip. We are currently trying to recruit some U14s to go instead.

This will also serve as a chance for coaches to meet up/learn from each other and hoping to have a coaches' workshop as part of the schedule.

Next season

Planning is already underway for next season, with exciting changes planned for the Strength and Conditioning element/Sport Injury and Prevention, as well as a review of how to get the most out of our pathway programmes. We welcome feedback from clubs on what they feel about the programme and any suggestions for going forward. On that note, we'd love to come out and see girls at clubs. Please do get in touch and let us know when your training is, if it's something that you're interested in.

- **Junior Chair** - Hollie Wright

Primary school festival 28/4 - request for volunteer coaches.

End of season tournament 12/5 - request for teams to see if we can go ahead.

U12 regional - no somerset teams entering - hope to enter next season.

U14/16 regional for 24/25 season- structure change. deadline for entries end of May, seeding tournament in June with start of season in sept.

Trial coffee van on 10/3.

- **NDO** - Jo Templeman

Apologies I was unable to be with you at the last SCNA meeting. There has been some brilliant work happening in the county this season, so this report is also my opportunity to recognise significant contributions and give you a snapshot of key projects.



EN League Landscape

There is still so much we don't know about leagues, including leagues that aren't registered with England Netball.

To help us make key decisions about how we best enable a 'Game for Life' for players/participants and the role different types of leagues could play and also how we best tailor our support to different types of leagues we need a much better understanding and far greater detail than we currently know.

We're working with a company to get a full picture of all leagues (registered, non-registered, commercial/social etc) to...

- ü Obtaining a full picture of netball league provision
- ü Gauge the quality of the league and the experience they provide
- ü Mapping the provision so we have tools to support national and local planning

This required the support of each county to complete a survey helping us to gain insight and I am very thankful to Mel and Debbie for getting this completed so promptly to enable us to push forward to the next stage of the project.

'Where to Play' Somerset

Attached for you. I am always working on accessing new areas, if anyone has any local insight they want to share with me or projects they would like my support with please do get in contact.

NetballHer

SCNA and myself are working with a local women's health expert to develop and deliver something meaningful to help support our members at all stages of life. More exciting news on this project to come.

Netball South West Walking Netball Festival

On the 4th February EN and Netball South West worked in partnership to deliver a WN festival in Yeovil. It was sold out, 12 teams competing in a fun wiggle and giggle event which saw 90 plus ladies Take to the court. I will be looking to deliver a smaller scale festival in Somerset this Spring, for further information be do get in contact.



Netball Youth Camps

We ran two NYCs in February half term, across 2 age groups, both at capacity. I will be doing the same in the Easter break, location and dates TBC.

Net Vets

Thank you to the SCNA committee for getting the Net Vets Tournament confirmed, 17th March 2024. So far 12 teams have expressed interest in taking part on the event. Huge thank you to Mel, key in driving the event which sounds like it will be a fantastic day of competition.

Facilities

Work with Strobe, SCNA, NSW and EN continues in the quest to secure funding for key maintenance at the site to help sustain the regular netball activity here. Special mention to Hollie who has tirelessly worked keeping the project on track.

NDO Targets

This year EN national targets were centered around attracting new to netballers and enticing back those who may not have been involved in netball activity in the last 12 months. As a county I was tasked a target of 275 new participants and I am pleased to say as a county we have exceeded that:

Total number attended an EN program: 492

Total new to netball: 297

Thank you for all the hard work for our Partners and Host's for contributing to this success



8. Trainer Exchange

@somersttrainerexchange is a platform that has been set up to advertise pre-loved trainers with life left in them. Users take photos of the trainers and list details of size and location

ACTION - Clubs to promote on their socials

9. Code of Conduct for matches -

There have been reports of unacceptable behaviour towards the umpires including eye rolling, verbal and facial expression opinions on decisions made. As players, coaches and spectators we should observe the Code of Conduct set out by the SCNA and International Rules. A lot of our umpires are at different points in their officiating journey and with our help will continue to grow and attain a good standard of umpiring. Please be kind, respect the decisions that are given and be constructive in any questions you have in respect of confirmation of the rules throughout a game.

ACTION - Clubs to advocate to their members

10. Volunteer of the Month - Keep those nominees coming. You can nominate every month. Have a think about who you can reward with a bit of special recognition for the Extra that they put in.

11. Future Fixtures Rep / Future committee reps - ideally it would be good if we have a volunteer to shadow Mel for the second half of the season to take over for the following season.

Action - Clubs to ask all Members if they would be interested.

12. AOB -

- There have been lots of social media posts about the new rules coming in September which are already being used at Superleague and International level.

ACTION - Clubs to make their members aware going into the new season.



- If you have any feedback on anything netball related - how we could improve in any way, anything you think we could do differently, then we want to hear from you. You are always welcome to message Michelle somersetnetballsecretary20@gmail.com or contact Debbie Sims (Chairperson) for an informal chat
- It was raised that at times this season there are long periods where a team does not have a game. Maybe we could re-introduce the cup/plate again so we have more continuity throughout they year. It has been agreed that this be discussed for implementation next season.

ACTION - Fixtures sub group

Save the Date for the AGM - Mon 17th June at 7.30pm in Street - this will be 'In Person'

Details to follow shortly.