

# 6th AAS Annual General Meeting 2016 to 2017 Season

## Thursday 11th May 2017

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**Committee Attendees:** Jane Arnett (JA), Jane Davies (JD), Natalie Marchant (NM), Jemini Tarling (JT), Karen Nash (KN), Emma Feltham (EF), Sam Peel (SP), Sally Grimshaw (SG), Kelly Durbridge (KD), Ruth Parkinson (RP), Liz Driscoll (LD), Becks McRobb (RM), Belinda Bryan (BB), Vicky Topa (VT), Pip Wilford (PW), Emma Wakelin (EW), Jonelle Bester (JB)

**Others Present:** Yvette Harding (YH), Sandra Campbell (SC), Tara Youngman (TY), Monica Church (MC), Jana Moffett (JM)

**Apologies:** Lisa Laguarda (LL), Helen Sheffield (HS), Kate Beuve (KB), Amy Smith (AS), Fiona Ford (FF)

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### 1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chair

JA began the meeting thanking everyone for attending, particularly the non-committee members. JA also introduced two new members: Monica Church and Jana Moffett.

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### 2. Agreement of last season's AGM minutes

Minutes from the last AGM were agreed.

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### 3. Appointment of Officers

JA offered her thanks and farewell to JT following her resignation as the club's membership secretary having held the role since the club began six years ago. Kate Dunbar is stepping aside from her role as assistant treasurer and the position of mini's admin is also now vacant.

The following appointments and people were voted in:

- Monica Church as Membership Secretary
- Mini's Admin – Jana Moffett
- Assistant Treasurer – Gill Daniel

The resulting committee for 2017/2018 is as follows:

#### **Executive Committee (5 members)**

Chair: Jane Arnett

Vice Chair: Natalie Marchant

Membership Secretary: Monica Church

Treasurer: Jane Davies

Child Welfare Officer: Karen Nash

Head Coach: Jane Arnett

### **Management Committee (14 members)**

Events Officer: Kelly Durbridge

Kit Secretary: Sam Peel

Publicity Officer: Becks McRobb

Web Manager: Sally Grimshaw

Assistant Treasurer: Gill Daniel

Club Administrator: Emma Feltham

Development Officer: Helen Sheffield

U15/U16 Admin: Lisa Laguarda

U14 Admin: Liz Driscoll

U13 Admin: Belinda Bryan

U12 Admin: Kate Beuve

U11 Admin: Amy Smith

U10 Admin: Emma Wakelin

AAS Adult Rep: Pip Wilford

AAS Minis Rep: Jana Moffett

Coaches: Jane Arnett, Natalie Marchant, Liz Driscoll, Ruth Parkinson, Vicky Topa, Jonelle Bester

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### **4. Chair's Report by JA**

Our 6th season has benefitted from a stable club structure, with no major changes except for one extra team in the Adult section. This has made it easier, and less stressful, for the coaches and committee, although no less busy and time consuming.

We have three new accomplished umpires, Lucy, Faye and Charlotte, and we have a new coach, Jonelle. This has definitely lessened the burden on the other coaches and umpires, but we need to continue to train up more coaches and umpires to continue this trend.

This season we have received, and overheard, lots of very positive comments about our club, and we should be very proud of the reputation we now have in the community. We get comments from other umpires, from other coaches, and from parents within the club and outside the club, not just about our playing ability but also about our attitude to competition. We must ensure that this never goes to our heads and we continue to encourage the same ethos as we always have, that we continue to pay attention to detail, that we continue to care, and that we continue to teach our girls respect for each other, other players, clubs and umpires.

This year has been a very successful year. We have had six girls in the U14 Surrey Development Academy, we have won numerous medals across all age groups, and last week we had very notable success in the Surrey County Tournament with the U13A and the U14A winning Silver and Bronze respectively. I think this is testament to how hard the girls work, how much they love their netball, and the high standard of coaching that we provide.

Obviously as a competitive sports club, success is important. However, I do worry about the girls who may not be A or B team standard, who may not be getting League fixtures, or meaningful matches. Although we have discussed ideas at length at committee meetings, we have never been able to come up with an adequate solution, and therefore this remains an issue. I would like to suggest that we find a new committee member, or existing committee member, who could be a "C team Rep", and take on this challenge.

Thank you to the committee for all you do, and I look forward, as always, to next season.

The opportunity for a C Team rep position to be filled with the hope of organising several matches throughout the year and encouraging the formation of a C team league was a major focus for JA. A detailed discussion followed with RP offering to be the coach linked to any possible C team matches/league. **JA to put together an email regarding C teams for managers to circulate to parents in advance of next season.**

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## 5. Treasurers Report (JD)

JD circulated the accounts and reported a healthy profit of £6,700.

JA suggested using some of the surplus to run some training masterclasses for the girls with Mikki Austin from Surrey Storm who charges £35 per hour. Committee agreed.

JT suggested looking at investing in an automated payment system for subscriptions to reduce the level of manual input currently required and giving access to the system to those committee members who need to keep up-to-date with payments.

JD reported having difficulty keeping up-to-date with the 2016/17 subscriptions and hoped that GD will be able to assist next year. JD requested **coaches make a note of umpire costs** – this may be possible on a new automated subs payment system.

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## 6. Secretary's Report (JT)

The club is now running at full capacity with each year group full. With Minis starting at year 3 with a 20 girl entry and then the only real opening for new members is the additional 10 places we offer at the Year 5 (U10) entry and for the last 2 years we have had double this number on the waiting list. Then at the top end we have the U15/16s going into the Adults where we even had a waiting list for this season. We're a popular club and if there continues to be a good take up of U15/16s wanting to go into Adults a strategy for how we grow this area will need to be considered.

The affiliation process for last season generally ran well starting August but not completed until October due to missing paperwork not being received. It is still an arduous task due to England Netball's affiliation process being run on a dated and slow system but also the piece meal fashion in which we receive the forms through from new members.

With the growth of the club, the positive financial position we are in and the amount of administrative time required by the Secretary, Administrator and other committee members the time has definitely come for us to look at some smarter systems to assist in the administration of the club. Firstly, we can help ourselves by having one button on the website for Junior membership forms and one for Adult to encourage all forms required by new members to be completed. Currently we show the forms separately and chasing missing paperwork really slows down the affiliation process. It is also a stilted process not having full view of who has paid what. As such, with the club grown to the size it has I'd also suggest a payment system such as PaySubsOnline which several other clubs use and I understand have found to be extremely successful and cut their administration considerably, this has been suggested to me as well by a few members of our club. This system would also have administration benefits for the Kit Secretary, Safe Guarding officer as well as the Coaches. The fact key members of the committee can have a view on payments plus members of the club can update their own information online and everything held securely on this one system would certainly benefit the club.

In the same vein, I would suggest we look at automating the waiting list process via the website. Waiting lists are continuing to grow especially for the younger years and parents are looking to put their children down for a place a couple of years ahead of their start date, desperate to secure a place. Currently requests to go on the club's waiting lists come in via phone call, emails to coaches, managers, secretary, etc. I believe if we were simply to refer the inquiry to the website where they log their interest for start of which season and for what year, this enables a clearer direct process, removes the club's responsibility to record/collate this information and again everything is held on line and in one central place.

With Monica stepping into my shoes, if we can find a system to automate much of the general administration, this will enable a smoother process to many of the administrative tasks but also I believe be clearer for members and help the club considerably. More importantly if we can make the administration easier and quicker we can look at doing things such as applying for Club Mark accreditation, part of Sport England, which provides recognition for high quality clubs but also has tangible benefits such as access to the [Active Kids](#) scheme where Clubs can apply for equipment and this is an accreditation I believe we could achieve if we can find the time to collate the evidence to support the criteria required. I am very sad to be stepping down it's been fantastic to be part of such a wonderful journey and see the club grow so successfully but also be part of the committee with these other amazing hard working ladies.

**VT to research accreditation.**

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## 7. Kit Secretary's Report (SP)

The season was successful in holding the kit at the shed on a Saturday. It was a surprise to learn that the minis wanted kit even though it is not necessary even when they get to year 7 unless in squads!

Problems for next year: the Prostar jackets that we have are no longer being made and Lester Bowden is in liquidation (where we get the waterproofs printed with logos!).

Going forward I am working with Andy from the uniform shop in Fetcham to source supplies of bags / skins and waterproof jackets. Additionally, potentially holding the kit at the shop therefore giving the club better access to the kit.

We are going to buy new kit for all coaches and helpers that give up their time on the court side! There will be spares in the shed for DofE helpers too!

JA will put together a list of coaches/adult members requiring kit.

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## 8. Child Welfare Officer's Report (CC)

This season has been quiet from a safeguarding point of view. I have had a few minor issues but no serious concerns and we have addressed the topic of communication via text. Most policies are up for review this year and I will let everyone know of any changes. One policy change that immediately stands out relates to concussion and everyone should be made aware, particularly all first aiders. **KN to send details to JA.**

JA encouraged the committee to speak to KN as a great sounding board for any concerns/worries.

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## 9. Website Officer's Report (SG)

The "Go Daddy.com" subscription is due for renewal and SG has been quoted £431 for a further three year subscription. A discounted price of £366 has been offered for renewal next week. **SG to investigate alternatives prior to renewal.** The site has mainly only required maintenance this year with match results added regularly as well as latest information.

**SG to add sponsors' logos to web site.**

JA stated that the site is a good source of knowledge containing all up-to-date policies. JD suggested the web address be included at the bottom of all team emails to encourage use – **admin.**

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## 10. Publicity Officer's Report (RM)

The main paper to publish us is the Leatherhead and Dorking Advertiser and we have had some good coverage this season. This year I have changed my tack on sending articles to the paper. Throughout the year the main articles to send in are regarding major achievements accompanied by a nice photo, rather than just results. Subjects such as the group of girls who were successful in getting into the Surrey Academy and main wins at the local tournaments etc. I do rely on team managers/parents sending me the information and photos when it isn't my own child's team.

Next year – it would be great if members could proactively send me a photo and some info regarding team achievements – it can be something as simple as beating your nemesis! I need the information by Monday afternoon to ensure it gets to the paper in time to publish. I don't propose that we send in anything and everything but carefully selected interesting stories that have a little twist.

JA would like to see Minis included in publicity.

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## **11. Development Officer's Report (HS)**

Please contact HS for any information relating to umpiring or coaching courses.

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## **12. Events Officer's Report (KD)**

### **CHRISTMAS HIGH 5 TOURNAMENT**

It was decided that we would cancel the New Year Tournament for this season due to various reasons and instead we introduced a HIGH 5 Christmas tournament for all the younger girls of the club from U8-U11s. Girls from the older age groups got involved as team managers, umpires, selling raffle tickets and in charge of the shooting competition. The tournament was a huge success and as a way forward we will be carrying on with this event in the future. It was a real club effort.

### **END OF SEASON TOURNAMENT**

We had around 160 girls take part in the End of Season Tournament. We followed the same format as the previous year. We were very lucky to secure the appearance of Mikki Austin from Surrey Storm. What an inspirational, lovely young lady. She made the effort to go round to all the courts to watch all the girls play, get involved in the shooting competition, run some drills, pose for photos and have a chat with the girls, their parents, our committee and coaches. Mikki gave an inspirational speech at the awards ceremony and the girls were captivated by every word she was saying. The tournament was yet another fabulous day and thank you to all that were involved in helping it run smoothly. Our tournaments could not run if it were not for the help and support of all connected with the club.

We received lots of kind comments from parents and from our outside umpires, who were amazed at the size of the club and what we offer for girls from U8 upwards. They really enjoyed the day and felt that the atmosphere was great. They commented all the girls (and their parents!) were an absolute credit to our club and they would love to offer their umpiring services for any of our future events.

### **TOUR**

As the Club has grown significantly over the last couple of years, it has been hard to find the right Tour to suit all. It was suggested that we look into going to the Butlins tour, which will take place in July. Each year group has decided if they want to go and it is down to them to organise as a year group the trip arrangements. We have the U10s, U11s, U12s and Adults going.

The JCA Netball Tour in Shropshire have now introduced High 5 Tournaments and we have provisionally reserved 40 places for next June for the U10 and U11s. We will decide by the end of the year if we will be attending.

JA thanked KD for all her help organising tournaments and events.

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## **13. AAS Ladies' Report (NM)**

This season has seen our adult section growing from one to two teams in the Kingston League as they were joined by another cohort of our junior girls. I selected seven players who would form the core of the A team, with the intention that all other players would have the chance to play in the B team.

The A team were rightly confident on the back of a great division win in last season's summer league. There has been some excellent play from the As during the winter league, with numerous fantastic wins, where they have fought hard and played well as a unit. They suffered slightly this season with a lack of consistency, due to unavailability of players at times, but were ably assisted by several players from the B team. We do have a tendency to start off too slowly, before we get fully into our stride, and this has, on occasion, cost us the game. This is something we really need to work on for next season, as well as continuing to improve our fitness, to ensure we are working at full capacity throughout the match. Despite a few close losses, we finished a credible fourth in the league this year.

The Bs had a tougher challenge this year, largely due to the team changing regularly to give everyone the opportunity to play. Despite only winning three matches this season, every player has improved tremendously and they have all loved playing. The majority of losses were not by large margins, and I am confident that with continued hard work, the improvements will soon result in more wins. The B team this year has been primarily about development, which I believe

has been a real success. With more juniors joining us next season I believe we will continue to make great progress.

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the adults this year. I could not ask for a more committed, keen and lovely group of ladies and girls. Although in its infancy, I'm certain that this section of the club will continue to go from strength to strength. We have applied for a third team in the leagues next season, so fingers crossed we will be successful.

Huge thanks goes to Pip for all the hard work she puts in with the admin of the team. I absolutely couldn't do it without her!!

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#### **14. U15/16 Report (NM)**

The U15/16s have had a fantastic year, with both year groups gelling well together from the start. We were very lucky to be able to get three teams into Nonsuch, which enabled us to offer our C team girls four Sundays of netball. Unfortunately, we often struggled to field a complete team, without having to ask for help from the U14s, but there was a core of girls who were always there, and really enjoyed playing, despite the tough opposition. They finished 8th in division B.

Our A and B teams played in both the Nonsuch and Mid Surrey Leagues, both performing outstandingly at Mid-Surrey and coming away with gold medals for the league. Nonsuch was tougher, especially in the A division. The As finished 8th, but the majority of their losses were by very small margins, so they can take comfort in the fact that they are still performing very competitively against the top clubs in that division. The Bs fared really well in their division, only losing one and drawing one match all season, finishing in bronze medal place. The two teams who finished above them were A teams playing in the B division, so they can be very proud of their achievements.

I have loved coaching this group of girls despite the constant chatter, weird accents, screeching and giggling! They are such a lovely, funny group of girls who have developed great friendships, and love their netball.

I'd like to thank Laura for all her support and help with the admin this year, and I'm very sad to see her go.

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#### **15. U14 Report (JA)**

Having taught these girls for five years I now have to reluctantly hand them over to Natalie who coaches the U15/16s. It has been a complete pleasure to coach these girls and a privilege to have watched them develop into a group of very accomplished netballers.

The one disappointment for me is that I have not been able to offer everyone in the group matches, but I must commend all the "C" team girls for their dedication to training and their determination to improve. The girls thank me for coaching them every week, whereas the pleasure has really all been mine. I actually look forward to seeing them all at training and watching them improve.

I can now sit back and watch them progress through the club, and beyond. I hope they all work on their umpiring and coaching skills because they are all perfectly able to do so.

Star Players : Lauryn Campbell and Josie Pinnock

Most Improved Player: Sophie Fitzgerald

U14A – Silver Medallists in Nonsuch League, Gold Medallists in Mid Surrey League, Bronze Medallists at the Surrey County Tournament

U14B – 5th in Nonsuch League, Silver Medallists in Mid Surrey League

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#### **16. U13 Report (LD)**

With 29 girls signed up for the U13s this season, we were able to field three teams in the Nonsuch League and two in the Mid Surrey League. Both the A and B teams came top of their divisions in the Mid Surrey League and both took bronze in the Nonsuch League. In addition, the A team played in the Surrey County Tournament and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> for the second successive year, losing only one match to eventual winners Cobham. Charlotte Cotchings was picked to attend the Surrey

Development Academy a year early – we are very proud of her achievements. The only down side to the season was that the C team really struggled in all of their competitive matches so we may have to consider whether playing in a competitive league is the best option for them next season. All in all, a good year.

Star Player A Team – Charlotte Cotchings  
Star Player B Team – Beth Brewer  
Star Player C Team – Maddie Daniels  
Most Improved Player – Roisin Parkinson  
Club Nomination – Maddie Daniels

Thank you as always to super Assistant Coach Kelly Durbridge.

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## **17. U12 Report (VT)**

Overall it is felt that the under 12's have had a successful and enjoyable season. This year has been a step up for a number of the girls, many who have played full seven aside netball for the first time. We have also introduced the concept of squad and recreational netball, with 18 of the girls selected to participate in an additional squad training every other week. We have also had two new members join us, both of which have shown themselves to be valuable additions to the team. It is also felt that all of the girls, regardless of their team, have continued to demonstrate a firm commitment to the club, and to their development within the sport. This has been reflected on the successes of each team and the number of players who are keen to return next year.

Results for the under 12

Under 12A  
Bronze medalists in the Nonsuch tournament  
Mid Surrey division A bronze medalists  
2nd place in the Mid Surrey tournament

Under12B's  
5th place in Nonsuch tournament  
Mid Surrey division B league winners  
3rd place in the Mid Surrey tournament

Under 12C  
6th place in Nonsuch tournament

The Nonsuch league has proven to be a more challenging standard of netball for all teams, and it is the aim that, for next season, each team improves their finishing position in each of the leagues. We will also be focusing on defeating some of the more difficult teams to improve player confidence and self belief.

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## **18. U11 Report (VT)**

The under 11s have had a mixed season this year. They are a squad of girls who are extremely keen to participate, regardless of the score, or the opposition. As a result, girls have been keen and available to enable us to consistently put out three teams, who have regularly participated in local leagues; three at Nonsuch and two at Mid Surrey.

Results for the under 11's this season are:

Under Black Team - played 7, won 5. Finished in 3rd place in the Nonsuch red league and won the Mid Surrey league.

Under 11 Purple - finished 7th place in the Nonsuch Red league.

Under 11 white - finished in 4th place in the Nonsuch Blue league

It appears that within this age group with have three dissimilar teams who vary greatly in skill. At times, this has led to some very challenging matches for both our B and C teams. Although this has been a topic of conversation amongst coaching staff this year, it is felt that although our C team is extremely keen to play competitive and meaningful matches, it is necessary to ensure that they play against appropriate and realistic competition for their current skill level.

I look forward to moving to full 7 aside game play and continuing to coach such a fun and enthusiastic group of girls next season.

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### **19. U10 Report (JA)**

This has been a very exciting new year group for me to coach. They have been incredibly dedicated, happy and keen, and I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching them. Every single one of the girls has improved quite considerably and they seem to have risen to the challenge of matches with ease.

We bravely entered three teams into the Nonsuch League and all fared well, with mixed success across the teams, but I believe enjoyed by everyone who took part. The Black team did particularly well, coming 2nd to Richmond Ravers in the end of season tournament. Our mission is to **beat** Richmond Ravers next season! AAS have never beaten Ravers before, but I think we are the closest we have been, and I hope these girls are up for the challenge.

We were also brave enough to enter one U10 team into the U11 section of the Mid Surrey League, and the girls quite remarkably came 3rd in the B division.

This has been a fabulous start for this year group. I thought my U14 parents were the most supportive group I could possibly have, but the U10 parents are shaping up to be an incredibly powerful force behind the girls. I am incredibly grateful for their support, it makes a huge difference. I am really looking forward to teaching the girls again next season and seeing what we can achieve.

Star Player : Bella Moffett

Most Improved Player : Evie Daniel

AAS Black - 4th in Nonsuch League, silver medallists in Nonsuch Tournament

AAS Purple – 7th in Nonsuch League

AAS White – 8th in Nonsuch League

AAS Lilac – Bronze medallists in Mid Surrey League

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### **20. U9 Report (JB)**

19 girls signed up for the Mini's netball at the beginning of the season. The girls were all eager to start and some managed to train through even the coldest days. The teenage helpers were always present and their help was greatly appreciated.

The training sessions focused on different activities including attacking, decision making, agility footwork, movement on court, identification of space, passing and defence, with each session having clearly defined goals for principles and skills.

Generally, a session would consist of a 10-min warm-up, during which the focus and goal of the session would be discussed with the children. Followed by 7-10 minutes at 4 to 5 different stations focussing on the activity of the day, with one of the stations being a shooting station – to ensure shooting practice takes place regardless of the activity of the day.

Having had activity stations allowed for the children to be kept to small groups of between 3-4 children which ensured individual attention, involvement from everyone all the time and no-one getting cold or bored. The activity stations also ensured that the teenage helpers were engaged and were responsible for coaching an activity at their station. Finally, there would be a 10-15 min game where the activities covered were put into practice. At the end of each session we would also briefly discuss what the children learned during the session and how it can be applied or help to improve their game.



The girls progressed and improved from the beginning of the season with the highlight being the end of season tournament where the girls all played very well. Lily Richardson received the award for Most Improved Player and Star Player went to Maisie Dunseath.

Unfortunately, during the season the girls' attendance dropped. As we are now looking towards the next season where the girls will be U10 and playing competitive netball, we will perhaps only have one team to enter the league.

I have learned a great deal during my first year as a coach and am looking forward to the next season.

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## **21. U8 Report (RP)**

Having run the minis for several years, we have a defined training strategy that appears to be bearing solid results for AAS. At the start of the season, most of the girls have not yet been introduced to the rules of the game or the skills required to play, so our training sessions build a portfolio of capabilities including balance, mobility, core strength and stamina as well as the ball control, shooting and footwork skills needed. We do this via a combination of age-appropriate netball drills and games to ensure that the fun element is maintained.

At this age, the girls play high-5 netball and as the weeks of the season progress, we introduce them to the positions and the basic rules so that they can readily progress to playing a game at the end of the training session.

This year's cohort appears to be a very strong group with a large number of able players. We have a good mix of blossoming defensive and mid court players as well as some girls who are consistently shooting and scoring goals which is great to see. All of the girls have made tremendous progress throughout the season and they should all be very proud of how much they have improved. It is great to see them mature from a group unaware of the game and the rules to a group of competent players. We wish them the best of luck as they progress to the U9s.

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## **22. Training Schedule for Next Season**

Next season's training schedule was circulated to members. **Admin to inform players of new times.** Coaches will remain with their current teams.

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## **23. Administration Schedule for Next Season**

Next season's administration schedule was circulated to members. Dates may change if payments are no longer taken manually.

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## **24. Club Structure for Next Season**

No changes to club structure.

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## **25. Communication**

JA requested that all emails be sent promptly to members - **ALL**. Otherwise, everyone was happy with club communication.

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## **26. England Netball Development Pathway**

The club is now able to put forward nominations for three U14 and two U16 players for academy development. Admin/coaches need to be aware of the new system so that they can direct girls for correct trials.

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## **27. Any Other Business**

Several parents had sent their thanks to the club, including Debbie Rendell and Fiona Ford.

A DBS is needed for Fiona Ford – KD.

JA to raise the question of the lack of refreshments on some occasions at the Nonsuch meeting.

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## **28. Meeting Closed**

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