

# 9th AAS Annual General Meeting 2019 to 2020 Season

## Thursday 7th May 2020

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**Committee Attendees:** Jane Arnett (JA), Jane Davies (JD), Natalie Marchant (NM), Emma Feltham (EF), Sally Grimshaw (SG), Kelly Durbridge (KD), Ruth Parkinson (RP), Becks McRobb (RM), Pip Wilford (PW), Jonelle Bester (JB), Monica Church (MC), Belinda Bryan (BB), Sarah Hallet (SH), David Grimshaw (DG), Matt Timblin (MT), Jo Pickup (JP), Elaine Taylor (ET), Emma Wakelin (EW), Linda Shirley (LS), Helen Hazell (HH), Katy Bridgens (KB), Jo Lloyd-Aziz (JLA)

**Others Present:** Fiona Ford, Lucy Marchant, Amelia Moore, Jacqui Bustard, Natalie Bleackley, Alia Mirza

### Apologies:

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#### 1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chair

JA welcomed everyone to our first (and hopefully last) Zoom AGM and hoped all families of the All Stars community are remaining fit and healthy. JA thanks the non-committee members for their support at the meeting: Fiona Ford, Lucy Marchant, Amelia Moore, Jacqui Bustard, Natalie Bleackley and Alia Mirza.

This has been a busy year but yet the smoothest, due to the fabulous committee we have in place.

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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

The following appointments and people were voted in:

- Kit Secretary – Jo Pickup
- U9 Admin – Joanne Lloyd-Aziz
- Adult Admin – Jo Pickup

The resulting committee for 2020/2021 is as follows:

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

Chair: Jane Arnett

Vice Chair: Natalie Marchant

Membership Secretary and Data Protection Lead (DPL): Monica Church

Treasurer: Jane Davies

Child Welfare Officer: Sarah Hallett

Head Coach: Jane Arnett

### **Management Committee**

Events Officer: David Grimshaw

Kit Secretary: Jo Pickup

Publicity Officer: Becks McRobb

Web Manager: Sally Grimshaw

Assistant Treasurer: Katy Bridgens

Club Administrator: Emma Feltham

Umpiring Secretary: Kelly Durbridge

Social Media Officer: Kelly Durbridge

Ladies Admin: Jo Pickup

Health & Safety Officer: Matt Timblin

U15/U16 Admin: Belinda Bryan

U14 Admin: Matt Timblin

U13 Admin: Emma Wakelin

U12 Admin: Elaine Taylor

U11 Admin: Kelly Durbridge

U10 Admin: Helen Hazell

U9 Admin: Jo Lloyd-Aziz

U8 Admin: Emma Feltham

Walking Netball Rep: Becks McRobb

Coaches: Jane Arnett, Natalie Marchant, Ruth Parkinson, Kelly Durbridge, Jonelle Bester, Linda Shirley

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

The season kicked off with a flurry of friendly matches, and pre-season tournaments which meant there were weekly matches in September for most age groups. Whilst this was hard work, I think the girls and the parents were enjoying the weekly meet up and the weekly matches. This bodes well for next season's change to the junior league structure in Surrey, as girls will be playing more frequently than they do now. The Nonsuch League, the Mid Surrey League, the U16 County League and the Epsom Little League are to be combined into the new Surrey Junior League, and this will mean age groups U10 to U16 will have 12 matches over 12 Sundays over the season, with just one match on each date rather than the "tournament format" which we have become used to. The new structure has been designed to ensure that as many teams can enter the league as want to play, and in a "promotion/demotion" format so that teams will be in divisions which suit their level of play. We will see each other more often and we will have less standing around in the cold. From the AAS perspective, we think this is definitely the way to go, with our eventual aim to get weekly matches for all our members. This will not only benefit our girls but is a necessary way forward for our fabulous sport if we want it to develop and grow in the way that it should, in order to keep up with other sports and their more established league set ups.

Congratulations to Natalie Marchant, Kelly Durbridge and Charlotte Cotchings who were all awarded for their service to netball at the Surrey AGM in June. Natalie was awarded "Surrey Grassroots Coach" for her work in establishing the AAS Adult section of the club, Kelly was awarded "Unsung Hero" for her hard work behind the scenes, and Charlotte was awarded the "Young Volunteer" Award for her coaching, her umpiring and everything else she does for the club. Natalie, Kelly and Charlotte are all now through to the London and South East round, where we hope they will have continued success.

The highlight for this season was, without a doubt, our AAS World Cup Tour to Liverpool in July. 95 of us travelled to Liverpool by coach to watch the England Roses compete against the best teams in the world for the World Cup title. This trip provided memories which will live with me for ever. We have a fabulous community spirit at AAS, and never was this more evident than when we went to Liverpool as a happy, excited wave of purple. I think we all felt part of something very special, and we all very grateful to David Grimshaw for organising such an amazing event.

I am really sad to say that Pip is stepping down from her role as Ladies Admin, after 5 years of hard work organising all the adult fixtures and sorting out all the paperwork. It is a huge selfless job which involves a lot of time and effort, and we are hugely thankful to Pip who had done this brilliantly. The good news is that we are not losing Pip altogether as I have persuaded her to come and help coach the minis on a Saturday afternoon, and the other good news is that Jo Pickup has offered to take over Pip's role as Ladies Admin.

Whilst all the committee and coaches work incredibly hard, this year I want to pay special mention to Monica, our Club Secretary, who somehow managed to steer us all through the new England Netball Engage system, and lives to tell the tale. I would also like to mention Kelly who has created a fabulous momentum in the club with her great work on Social Media. This has been particularly important in keeping us together and keeping us having fun through the lockdown. Finally, I would like to thank Claire Whittaker who is not a committee member but has selflessly given up loads of time to run the AAS refreshments at all our events over the last 4 or 5 years and has made thousands of pounds for the benefit of everyone at the club.

Next year is our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so let's make it the best season so far. Our aims are to achieve our Silver CAPS, to be voted the Best Club at the Golden Globes, and to have the best party ever at our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance at Epsom Racecourse next April. We need to achieve all this whilst still keeping all our members happy, motivated and playing the best netball they can. Roll on next season. 😊

## 5. Treasurers Report (JD)

FUNDS	£
Opening balance 1/6/19	15509.25
Costs not cleared in previous year	
Income not cleared in previous year	300.00
Net balance 2019/20 season	2052.00
Prepayments	-1140.76
Current bank balance	16720.49

### INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2019/20

1/6/19-31/5/20

Run The Club	Notes	Income	Expenditure	Net 2020	Net 2019
Subs		30,997.56	(1,766.90)	29,230.66	31,665.00
Squad 2019/20		4,105.50	0.00	4,105.50	2,775.00
Match fees		7,259.58	0.00	7,259.58	4,248.70
Affiliations	now paid by members	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,147.80)
Ligue/ment Fees		180.00	(4,368.00)	(4,188.00)	(2,149.00)
Equipment		0.00	(327.09)	(327.09)	(552.59)
Coaches/Umpires		0.00	(18,656.42)	(18,656.42)	(19,479.40)
Courses/DBS		0.00	(81.99)	(81.99)	(810.55)
Courts/Facilities		773.00	(15,461.50)	(14,688.50)	(11,688.50)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		43,315.64	(40,661.90)	2,653.74	(139.14)
Kit					
Kit		0.00	(784.69)	(784.69)	718.96
Tournaments					
Includes Nonsuch refreshments		2,295.10	(224.73)	2,070.37	1,081.66
Other					
S/ship		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Misc		0.00	(940.64)	(940.64)	(239.99)
Butlins	Deposits paid	4,435.00	(4,745.00)	(310.00)	
Surrey Storm Tickets		1,657.22	(1,622.00)	35.22	
Summer netball		60.00	(60.00)	0.00	0.00
World Cup 2019		40.00	(712.00)	(672.00)	186.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		51,802.96	(49,750.96)	2,052.00	1,607.49

### Treasurer's report for the year to 31 May 2020 [to be updated at end of season]

As at 02/05/2020 the Income and Expenditure Account shows a CR balance of £2,052.00 (vs. 2019 CR of £1,607.49) [with credits outstanding for cancellation of summer netball leagues: Cobham netball club summer league credit (£300) Therfield refund (£90)]. This balance includes a negative balance on the Butlins tour payments to be reviewed.

Current bank balance is £16,720.49 to be updated at the end of the season. Balance includes deposit payment for Anniversary dinner of £1,140.76. Subscriptions were adjusted in all year groups at the beginning of the season due to EN moving affiliation payments onto members and to reflect better the costs of running the individual year groups. Coaching requirements were also reviewed and adjusted. As a result, run the club costs are showing a healthier CR balance of £2,653.74. Coaching costs are slightly skewed due to season finishing a couple of weeks early.

The current financial position and the anticipated future financial results are satisfactory. No further adjustment to fees is believed to be necessary.

There are no financial issues which should be brought to the attention of members.

A review of the accounts is to be carried out by an independent assessor at the end of the financial year.

**JD to check the reason for the substantial increase in match fees.**

## 6. Secretary's Report (MC)

### Opening remarks

This has been another industrious season for the club, a new online membership platform to implement, lots of enquiries, trials and processing new members. We have received huge interest in the club which is wonderful. This is not only because we are great and win lots 😊 credit also needs to be paid to a resurgence in awareness of netball thanks to the world cup 2019; our effective social media and local online presence and of the course the best advert for the club, our members!

### Membership update

We have grown from 198 members to 288 in the space of three seasons! The fastest growing age groups *bookend* the club; the Minis have grown from 36 girls to 56 and the Walking Netballers from 0- 23 members in a season

Table 1

Season	Juniors	Adults	Total
2019-2020	246	42	288
2018-2019	204	20	224
2017-2018	210	19	229
2016-2017	-	-	198

### Leavers

There have been 9 leavers this season. It is always sad when the girls decide to move on but there is a variety of reasons. The main ones seem to be conflicts with other activities/sports and the academic pressures of school. On the plus side we are also seeing a return of a few of our 18+ girls thus bolstering our successful adult section.

### Waiting list update

Another busy year for the waiting list! The U9, U10 & U11 all have healthy waiting lists too. I'm pleased to announce that Sarah Hallett is now managing the WL, thank you Sarah!

Table 2: 2019\_20 WL

Age Group	Total	Trialled number
U7 <sup>1</sup>	18	n/a
U8	10 <sup>2</sup>	n/a
U9	16	n/a
U10	28	11
U11	11	1
U12	4	
U13	2	
U14	3	2
U15 & U16	2	
Adults	5	

<sup>1</sup> Waiting list open to those in YR2, all have been offered places for next season starting in September in the YR3 minis.

<sup>2</sup> First on the list has been offered a place for next season, waiting for confirmation.

Age Group	Total	Trialled number
Walking Netball	1	
Grand total	<b>100</b>	<b>14</b>

### **Trials**

We would really like to aim for trials in June to ensure that we have plenty of time for new members to complete their memberships and for the coaches to have enough time to make their selections for the next season. The June date is of course dependent on the social distancing measures being lifted. We are keeping an open mind and will review this again once more information is forthcoming from the government.

### **Contact lists & Registers**

Having the latest parent contact details is vital and part of our safeguarding good practice. As per the Admin guide please remind parents to check their child's ENgage profiles **and** to notify you of any changes so that our contact lists are up to date.

### **ENgage**

Despite some early England Netball IT teething problems, as a club we navigated this new system with relatively few issues compared to other organisations. So, thank you all for that. I have written an ENgage reference guide with links and helpful tips for our club, specifically with the team admins in mind.

### **On-going projects update**

The Silver CAPS accreditation is on-going and with the abrupt end to the season I would like to take this opportunity to get this finished and submitted ready for sign off when the new season starts.

JA took the opportunity to thank MC for all her hard work, particularly with the ENgage system. It was noted that ENgage may still prove challenging this year, but we should be over the worst.

ENgage got in the way of the club's progress with CAPS (Club Action Planning Scheme). CAPS is a national accreditation scheme via England Netball with three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold and as a club we are hoping to achieve Silver this year. **If anyone would like to assist with the effort, please contact MC.**

## **7. Child Welfare Officer's Report (SH)**

This season we added a Safeguarding page to the AAS website (Thank you Sally), giving all our members easy access to our safeguarding policies and guidelines. These were all up-to-date for the start of the new season and EN have not adjusted any of these policies over the year. I will continue to monitor the EN safeguarding policies for any changes.

To remind parents and players how important their responsible use of Social media is to us as a club, we sent out the EN Social Media policy and the AAS Social Media Acceptable Use Agreement to all members at the beginning of the season. It was also thought to be a good time to remind players and parents of the clubs Code of Conduct – for some members it will have been quite a few years since they originally signed when joining the club.

All Safeguarding, First Aid training and DBS checks are up to date, and I have emailed all those who need to refresh their training for next season.

When we are allowed back on the netball court, I expect there will be some safeguarding and health & safety implications. I will keep monitoring the EN safeguarding pages for updates.

**SH is wondering whether we should add a statement regarding Covid-19 to the web-site. To be considered.**

EW to re-send her article regarding wellbeing to SG for inclusion on the web site. Once added, a WhatsApp message will be sent to all year groups to draw their attention to it.

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## **8. Head Coach's Report (JA)**

The coaching team remains the same, with Natalie, Kelly, Jonelle, Ruth and myself as UKCC Level 2 coaches, and Lucy M, Amelia and Alia who qualified as Level 1 coaches at the end of last season. We have made the most of having Lucy M, Amelia and Alia this year, as sadly they will be off to university next season. We wish them all the best, in the knowledge that their playing, coaching and umpiring skills will stand them in very good stead at their university netball clubs, and we hope to see them back at AAS as soon and as often as possible. They have been an asset to the club, a huge help to me and we will all really miss them next year.

Obviously, as part of our succession planning, we continue to develop more coaches as we lose some to university. This season we have had 4 sixth form trainee coaches, Martha, Lauryn, Lucy H and Sophie Y, and we are hoping that the lockdown will not affect their Level 1 coaching qualifications in June. We will then be set up for next season with another 4 Level 1 coaches.

The season started with another pre-season training weekend with Jo Trip. This was popular, once again, and I think will now become a regular part of our season's schedule.

We had a few masterclasses with Jo Trip, one with Karyn Bailey and another with Georgia Lees. Whilst we love having the Superleague players coming to coach our teams, and we would like to do more, it is always tricky to schedule, and they are often cancelled by the Superleague players due to demands on their time, but we will continue to try and schedule more next season.

Whilst the demands on the coaches seem to be ever increasing, we also seem to get more and more support and engagement from parents which really helps, and for which we are very grateful. This year parents have stepped up at training, ensuring that we have sufficient adult:child ratios, and next season we will be asking for even more parental help to enable us to support all the teams in the new Surrey Junior League.

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## **9. Kit Secretary's Report (SP)**

Thank you to Sam Peel who has been Kit Secretary for a number of years but who decided during the year to stand down. Jo Pickup has now taken on the role of Kit Secretary.

Over the course of the year, the sale of all AAS club kit has fully transitioned to The Kit Shop in Fetcham. AAS will therefore no longer be selling any new kit, and does not make any profit from kit items. This decision reflects the growing size of the club and the wider range of AAS kit items, which means it is no longer practical to sell kit from home. If in the future AAS decides to change the design/style/colour of kit we will have to buy any unsold stock from The Kit Shop.

There have at times over the year been difficulties with the supply of AAS kit. This is owing to the supplier Team Colours having to source an alternative manufacturer of fabric as well as changes in personnel at Team Colours. This has resulted in the delay of match tops and skorts. Going forward, The Kit Shop will deal directly with Team Colours and be responsible for sourcing, supply and quality control of kit.

During the year, AAS introduced a number of new kit items e.g. bench coats, headbands, leggings and skins. All new items are AAS branded and have been well received by players.

A small amount of second hand kit is held by Jo Pickup. Jo is always happy to receive donations of club and county kit, and will sell all donations at club events such as the end of year tournament. All profit from the sale of second hand kit goes to AAS.

The AAS Kit Directive has been updated to reflect the changes outlined below, and is now The Club Kit Directive – April 2020.

If the Butlin's trip goes ahead, please let JP know in advance if any tour kit is required.

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

The "Go Daddy.com" subscription expires in June. There was the possibility of moving the website to the England Netball ENgage site but it has had teething problems so the plan is to renew again for another year. Cost for emails and website will be £264.

The aim continues to have the latest information on the site by Monday evening. The ticker shows if any training has been cancelled and there is a link through to the twitter feed.

During the year the site was updated with all the new/rewritten club policies and safeguarding information. The website will be updated and refreshed in the summer before the start of the season.

It was noted that if the ENgage web site improves, AAS will move the club's site there. For now, we will continue with our own web site.

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

It has been a quiet year for news coverage. We would have had a lot to shout about at the end of the season but as we all know the season has come to an abrupt end and the sports section of our local paper has been furloughed.

We have had a few articles published in the Ashted Village News which is great!

I would still love team admins/managers to send me good high res photos and details of any personal achievements so that we can send these throughout the next season.

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## 12. Events Officer's Report (DG)

A busy and successful 12 months thanks to the support of all members and in particularly the Events Team: Jane Arnett, Becks McRobb, Pip Wilford, Matt Timblin and Andy Nash

Whilst remaining our key contact for the Adults, Pip has stepped down from the Events Team, however I am delighted that a number of parents have agreed to join including: Sam Robinson; John-Mark Jones, Bruce Eaton, Joanne and Nasser Aziz.

### Events held since 2019 AGM

- 1) Netball World Cup, 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019
  - 92 players/parents attended this overnight trip to Liverpool to watch the Netball World Cup
  - The AAS presence was highly visible and noted by the event media and Micky Austin (Surrey Storm Coach)
  - Feedback from all was positive with demand to attend similar events in the future (eg Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham).
- 2) End of Season / World Cup BBQ, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019
  - BBQ scheduled to coincide with the finals of the Netball World Cup
  - Popular event with well over 100 people attending and feedback extremely positive
- 3) High 5 Tournament, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019
  - 16 teams, 100+ kids (20% up on 2018), great fun and a lot of positive feedback
  - Noted that if child not in finals some parents keen to leave
- 4) Surrey Storm Matches, Various March – May 2020 – POSTPONED
  - 50 tickets (10 tickets at each of 5 matches) purchased for Surrey Storm Matches during the 2020 season and made available to members at cost
  - Coronavirus has led to the postponement of these matches and tickets will either be provided for rescheduled games or vouchers available for 2021 season
- 5) End of Season Tournament, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – POSTPONED

- Postponed due to Coronavirus
- 6) End of Season Quiz, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

#### Planned Events

- 1) Rescheduled End of Season Tournament 2020, TBC
  - TBD – If current restrictions / social distancing requirements are lifted we may consider scheduling a ‘Start of Season’ Tournament
- 2) Rescheduled Surrey Storm Matches
  - TBD – Subject to Surrey Storm (see above)

#### Future Events

- 1) High 5 Tournament, December 2020
- 2) End of Season Tournament, 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021
  - Subject to availability of courts at Downsends
- 3) AAS, 10 year Anniversary Celebration, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Initial Plan:
  - Tournament to be held on Saturday 24th April 2021 at Downsends
  - Start at 10am aim to complete by 1pm
  - BBQ lunch for all players and family members (aim for this to be free)
  - Awards Ceremony – For both Tournament and Special Recognition
  - Evening Dinner Dance @ Epsom Race Course, Derby Suite (booked) for minimum of 120 people, cost per head c£70
  - Invite to be extended to U12+ and Parents

DG welcomed the new members of the events team Jo and Nasser Aziz – very pleased to have some parents from younger year groups supporting.

Future events will hopefully include a repeat of the world cup trip with a similar event for the Commonwealth Games.

DG is looking forward to the 10 year anniversary dinner and will contact JP to discuss a memento for the evening. DG also asked everyone to promote tickets for the event.

DG reported that Surrey Storm matches are currently postponed so ticket money is not being refunded. Should refunds be required, DG may be able to claim via his credit card.

The committee were keen to know if there would be another club quiz soon. DG to report back.

### **13. Umpiring Secretary’s Report (KD)**

We have had great umpiring coverage for our adult teams this season, there have been a few umpiring issues the day or two before a match but we managed to resolve these straight away. We have built up a great umpire/club contact list and everyone is really keen to help each other where they can.

Again, it is disappointing to report, the lack of availability/commitment by the junior girls who were in the umpiring programme this season. Whilst girls are all keen to umpire at first, umpiring is not for everyone and it takes a lot of commitment and dedication over a long period of time. The club have invested a lot of time in these girls in their umpiring learning and it is very frustrating when girls do not follow it through.

We have another group of girls coming through the programme this summer and next season. Girls are now being assessed by myself first as to whether they are ready to continue with the umpiring.

Unfortunately, we have been restricted on using our junior umpires in the Mid Surrey League and some Nonsuch age groups this season. This has been due to leagues organising umpires centrally.

A few congratulations are in order, Charlotte C on passing her C Award last summer, Millie C, Katie A, Amelia M, Hermione F, Anna P, Samantha F, Lily B who have all attended the Into Officiating Umpiring Course.

Anna P and Lily B have now attended their C Award Umpiring Course. Well done girls.

We lose one of our own fantastic umpires this season, Lucy M. Lucy has been an amazing umpire/mentor and role model for the club and to the girls. We are really going to miss her, and it leaves a big hole in our umpires. It will now be really imperative to lock down umpires as soon as the adult fixtures are confirmed just before the beginning of the season. We wish you all the best at University Lucy.



JA took the opportunity to thank KD for all her work in this big role as well as thanking LS for all the umpiring she does for the club.

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#### **14. Social Media Officer's Report (KD)**

There is a lot more engagement on our social media platforms, it could be better. I am currently looking into the finer details of each platform and what it can offer.

We currently have accounts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Instagram proves to be the most popular.

Please can coaches/committee/parents/carers continue to send me any news items and photos.

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#### **15. Health & Safety Officer's Report (MT)**

The HSO role was established as part of the 2018/2019 AGM. The main efforts around health and safety for this year have centered around codifying processes and policies in line with our CAPS accreditation and in recognition of the responsibility and importance the club places on creating and maintaining a safe training and playing environment for members and supporters of the club.

##### Policies and Process

We adopted a formal [health and safety policy](#) ahead of the start of the 2019/20 season. As part of this we committed to instituting a recorded risk assessment checklist ahead of any training session on top of the existing standing risk assessment that is in place.

Building on the work done last season, we have continued to require the completion of accident reports when there have been any injuries or accidents at matches and training. While we don't have the exact number submitted (they are currently locked in the shed at Downsend), the figures we have through the end of last year indicate there has been a significant increase in reporting which. It is important to note that this shouldn't be interpreted as a direct increase in the amount of injuries or accidents but of diligent reporting by all involved– which is exactly what we wanted.

##### First Aid

The club holds an up to date record of all those who have undertaken and passed the required first aid qualification, including the renewal dates. Individuals will be notified before the expiration date to allow time to refresh the training. We purchased additional first aid kits so that every age group (except the minis) has their own as well as one being kept permanently in the shed. The HSO will ensure that there are sufficient amounts of stock held in the shed to allow for coaches to replenish their bags as and when required.

##### Look Forward

Ahead of the new season, the HSO will review and update (where required) the club's risk assessment. This will include any recommended updates from England Netball (and Downsend School) around changes Covid-19 may require ahead of the resumption of club training.

We will also continue to ensure that all of our health and safety obligations laid out in the CAPS scheme are in place, current and demonstrable.

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

The adult teams have once again had a very successful season, despite numerous disruptions from the weather and not being able to totally complete the season. We started this year with an additional team in the Surrey League, taking us to three teams in both Kingston and Surrey leagues. We also, decided to split the training group, as the number of members had grown so significantly, that it wasn't proving practical to fit everyone on the indoor court. This change has proved very popular and successful.

Due to our previous season's success, the leagues had been very accommodating and worked with us to move our teams in to more appropriate divisions, with our A team moving up 3 divisions in Surrey and 2 in Kingston, allowing our B team to slot into the divisions vacated by the As. The Cs were also moved up a division in each league. This change has been fantastic for our club, generally giving the players really competitive matches most weeks.

The results have been fantastic. Our As consolidated their move in Surrey by finishing mid table, but in Kingston they were incredibly successful, once again winning their division and securing promotion next year. The Bs had equal success, winning their Surrey division, gaining promotion and finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> in Kingston, just missing out on promotion. The Cs have been fantastic, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in Surrey, once again gaining promotion and 4<sup>th</sup> in their Kingston division. Kelly and I couldn't be more proud of the progress all the girls have made.

The only sad part of the season is saying goodbye to a few people. Pip is stepping down as our admin, after five years of incredible dedication and amazing organisation. The admin role for the adult teams is a really big commitment and Pip has been fantastic in the role and a huge support for the coaches. We started these teams from scratch and Pip threw herself into communicating with the leagues, opposition teams and organising the players and we are going to miss her immensely. We cannot thank her enough for the contribution she has made.

Finally, we are saying goodbye to nine of our wonderful girls, as they move on to their next adventures at University. It is particularly sad for me to say goodbye, as this is the year group who I have coached all the way through the club from U10. Not all have been with us from the start, but they have all been an absolute delight. I cannot tell you how much I am going to miss them and how proud I am to see how they have developed over the years. I very much hope that this is just a short interlude in their AAS journey and that they will be back with us in the future. To Johanna, Alice, Alia, Kirsty, Becca, Amelia, Lucy F, Hannah and Lucy M, we wish you all the very best at University and hope to see you all again very soon! Keep in touch!!

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

The 2019/20 season saw a continuation of our new training structure for the U15/16s. After trials we split the group into a squad and non-squad group, with me taking on the squad girls and Kelly taking responsibility for the non-squad. At first, as always seems to be the case during this transitional year, the girls are reticent to mix, but after a few weeks they began to gel.

We were pleased that we were able to secure the A and B team a position in the U15/16 Division A at Nonsuch, in addition to an U15 team. At Mid Surrey, we were fortunate to get an A, B and C team in, which was an improvement on the previous year and, in addition, we managed to get both the A and B teams into the County League at Cranleigh. This meant we hoped to be able to offer many of our girls 16 Sundays of netball across the season.

Unfortunately, however, this has been the most tricky year in terms of disruptions for the girls. It felt like every Monday night was the time the heavens opened, making the courts slippery and difficult to train on. The girls at this age are tall, strong and fast, so working in these conditions isn't easy, but despite this, we had a very good turn out each week. The disruptions to the leagues started in November, when a few fixtures were moved to accommodate a schools' tournament. As a result of this change, some of our opposition teams were unable to field teams on the rescheduled dates, meaning our girls missed out on number of matches. Next came the bad weather, with matches cancelled at Nonsuch and even our indoor matches at Cranleigh being postponed, because travelling to the venue was considered too dangerous. The County league was also moved to different venues, due to an outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Cranleigh. These postponements resulted in a large number of matches being rescheduled for March, when we finally thought we'd get a continuous run of games, but then came Coronavirus, which brought a premature end to the season.

I really feel for the girls this season, as it feels like they were never able to get going properly. Despite this, after Christmas, I saw a real improvement in the girls' match play. Initially, we had talented individuals, who were subsequently, really beginning to show promise in their strategic and tactical play and it is such a shame that they weren't able to keep building on this. The only league completed was the Mid-Surrey league, where, in the A division, the As won the bronze medal and Bs came fourth and in the B division the C team came an amazing fourth place, playing against many opposition A and B teams. The girls can be very proud of themselves.

I hope all these unfortunate issues, beyond everyone's control, has not dampened their enthusiasm for netball and that we can get back on to court soon.

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### **18. U14 Report (KD)**

Another great season for the U14s. We started pre-season with the Waverley Vipers Pre-season tournament and friendly matches against Cardinals, 5Ways and Magic Netball Club. We were successful at the Waverley Vipers Tournament, with

the A Team being unbeaten on the day and winning GOLD and the B Team coming 8<sup>th</sup>. The girls also took part in the Elite Youth Netball League last Summer. The A team came 2<sup>nd</sup> and the B Team 4<sup>th</sup>. The Cardinals and Magic matches provided great match play for the girls and we travelled to Brighton to play 5Ways, coming away with two impressive wins.

We had three teams in the Mid Surrey League. The A Team won GOLD in the A Division, winning all their matches, the B Team also won GOLD in the B Division and the C Team came 6<sup>th</sup> in the C Division. Well done girls!

We were only able to have two teams in the Nonsuch League this year, which was very disappointing, as our C Team had been in the league in previous seasons.

Due to the Nonsuch Committee, rearranging one fixture date because of Surrey Schools, we then had a fixture clash on one date with the ELL. To overcome this, we had the A Team play in the ELL, B team play as the A team in Nonsuch and the C Team play as the B Team in Nonsuch. This meant that all girls in the age group got to play netball, which is great. Unfortunately, the last fixture date at Nonsuch has not been able to be played due to COVID-19, we haven't heard any further communication from Nonsuch as to whether they have postponed or cancelled this fixture. Currently, the A Team are 2<sup>nd</sup> in the A Division with only one point behind, and we can certainly win the division should the rest of the games be played. The B Team are also 2<sup>nd</sup>, four points behind the leaders and can also win that division should the rest of the games be played at some point.

This season we were able to enter an U14 team into the ELL. This team consisted of a squad of girls from the A&B Team. The first two dates were qualifying tournaments to see what division we would be placed in. We came 4<sup>th</sup> out of 11 teams which meant we were in the top tier. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to play the last two fixture dates due to bad weather and COVID-19. We are still awaiting the outcome of this league.

Before the lockdown, the U14s had a lot of fixtures/tournaments booked in for the Summer, most of these have been cancelled. We have one tournament and one summer league that have postponed until further notice.

We had two girls in the U15 Surrey County Pathway this season, Anna P and Evie S. Evie was in the Satellite Academy and Anna P started off in the Development Academy and was moved up to the Satellite Academy. Well done Girls!

A huge thank you to Ruth P and Charlotte C who have assisted me in coaching this age group this season.

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## **19. U13 Report (JA)**

The U13A team achieved Silver in the A Division of the Mid Surrey League, just missing out on Gold by goal difference. The U13B team achieved Bronze in the B Division just beating the C team who came 4<sup>th</sup> in the same division.

At the beginning of the season we had enough girls to play 3 teams, but unfortunately a combination of unavailability and a few girls leaving during the season meant that it was difficult to achieve any sort of consistency with the C team. We regularly had to use U12s to boost numbers. Whilst the U12s stepped up brilliantly, it was difficult for our U13s to feel part of a team. However, I still believe it was the right decision to enter 3 teams ensuring that all our girls got matches. Congratulations to the very committed C team girls who were always available and have improved massively throughout the season, resulting in the very very close match at Manor House on 1<sup>st</sup> March, losing to the Bs by just one point, 6 – 7.

The Nonsuch League is currently unfinished. The U13A team still have 3 matches to play but are definitely lined up for a medal in the A Division, and the U13B team, unbeaten so far, have 2 matches to play but are destined to win Gold in the B Division. Fingers crossed we will be able to play these matches so that the B team can enjoy the success they deserve.

I hope that all the girls will continue to play next season, and I hope to attract a few more girls so that we can have 3 strong and complete teams.

Thank you to Matt, who has been a tremendous support and has organised us all brilliantly, thank you to Alia and Amelia who have been excellent assistant coaches and thank you to the U13 parents who all play their part in managing this lovely year group.

Finally, congratulations to Lizzy H and Josephine A who were selected for an U13 Surrey Satellite Academy, and congratulations to Alex S, Zoe T and Emilia L who were selected for an U13 Surrey Development Academy.

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## 20. U12 Report (JA)

When Jonelle passed this group over to me, she told me what a lovely group they were and how sad she was to have to let them go. I was expecting good things and they didn't disappoint. This group has been a pleasure to coach. Their commitment has been tremendous with almost 100% attendance every week.

The U12A team achieved Silver in the A Division of the Mid Surrey League, just missing out on Gold by one point. The U12B team also had to play in the A Division which made it an uphill struggle, but they fought hard in every match and finished 8<sup>th</sup>. The U12C team played in the B Division and came a very respectable 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Nonsuch League is still unfinished, and we are yet to hear if the final matches will be able to be played. As it stands, the U12A team are 4<sup>th</sup> with 3 matches to play, and a definite possibility of a medal, and the U12B team are 8<sup>th</sup>. Again, it has been tricky with the U12B team playing against A teams in the A Division, but early nerves and despondency were put aside in the last few matches, and the team looked much more up for the challenge, resulting in better performances and some late season wins.

Playing B teams in A divisions is not our choice, but unfortunately the result of too many teams trying to get a place in the Leagues. We are hopeful that the new Surrey Junior League starting in September will allow for more teams to be able to play and for those teams to be able to play against appropriate opposition.

Thank you to Emma for organising us all brilliantly, thank you to Alia and Amelia who have been excellent assistant coaches and thank you to all the girls and the parents who have been so much fun to get to know. I truly have enjoyed becoming part of this group and am looking forward to seeing what we can achieve next season.

Finally, congratulations to Jacqueline Tetteh who was selected for the Surrey U13 Development Academy. I am expecting more girls to be selected for Surrey from this very talented group next season.

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## 21. U11 Report (JB)

Our U11s were playing in both the Nonsuch and Mid-Surrey leagues. The B-team, came third in the Mid-Surrey League.

Thank you to Lauryn C and Martha M who were my assistant coaches during the season, our parent helpers to assist with the adult child ratios and also thanks to Elaine Taylor who were our group admin and a great support for me. All your support is greatly valued and appreciated.

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## 22. U10 Report (KD)

Firstly, a big thanks to Kate Cordery who was carrying out the U10 admin at the beginning of the season, unfortunately she had to step down due to her daughter leaving AAS.

We had a few pre-season and summer tournaments/matches that we participated in. We entered teams in the Waverley Vipers pre-season tournament, Elite Youth Netball League, MSN Tournament and the Magic H5 Glitter Tournament.

In the Waverley Vipers Pre-season Tournament, the girls were playing in an age group above and came 5<sup>th</sup>. In the Elite Youth Netball League, the girls were again playing in an age group above and came 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Black Team came 2<sup>ND</sup> at the Magic High 5 Glitter Tournament and the Pink team came 5<sup>th</sup> and Olivia C was named U10 Player of the Tournament by the organisers. Well done Olivia! In the MSN Tournament, the Black team won all their matches coming 1<sup>st</sup> and the Purple team came 5<sup>th</sup>.

We also had friendly matches against Waverley Vipers, Cardinals and City of London Freeman's School. The Waverley Vipers and Cardinals matches were a great opportunity for our new girls who were joining the group in September to get some match play before the season started. We took three teams to CLFS and each team won their matches with some impressive score lines

This is our biggest age group in the Club, with 36 girls. At the beginning of the season, there were a handful of girls who did not commit to netball due to other sport participation, which was extremely disappointing and frustrating, considering there is a huge waiting list for this age group with girls who want to train and play netball and who are available.

We were fortunate to get four teams in to the Nonsuch league and two teams into the Mid Surrey League this season.

We had huge success in the Mid Surrey League, where we had an U10 team in the U10 division and an U10 team in the U11B Division. The U10 team won GOLD by winning all their games, and the U10 team in the U11B division also went unbeaten all season, and won GOLD. Such a fantastic achievement by both teams, especially the U10 team playing in the U11B division as they were playing an age group above. Huge congratulations to all these girls who played in these teams. In the Nonsuch league, the girls came across tougher opposition. The A Team came 4<sup>th</sup>, the B team came 6<sup>th</sup>, both in the A division and, the C Team came 6<sup>th</sup> and the D Team came 7<sup>th</sup> in the B division.

A huge thank you to Jonelle B, Lauryn C, Charlotte C and Imogen C for all your help with the U10s this season, both at training and on match days. A special thanks also goes to Issy D (U14) who has also helped on match days at Nonsuch. We had lots of summer tournaments/matches booked in, but due to COVID-19 most of those have been cancelled and two have been postponed.

Really looking forward to another great season with this age group.

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

Our year group consisted out of 28 girls.

We had a few friendly matches during the season, including a trip to Rudgwick, and matches against Eastwick School and CLFS, which gave the girls great experience at match play. They also enjoyed the Christmas Tournament very much.

Thank you to the dedicated helpers each Saturday - Millie, Catherine, Lizzie and Sophie, also our parent helpers each Saturday and our year group admin Helen Hazell. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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

As the club grows and thrives, so does the minis section as this age group attracts siblings as well as new members/players. This season saw a larger cohort join than prior years which indicates the strong following that the club has locally.

As with other years, the young players provide a mix of knowledge and experience with some already playing netball regularly at school and others having had little exposure to the sport or the skills required. Building their knowledge and developing their skills is thus the focus, whilst also introducing them to the court, the rules and the playing positions – and to manage this in a way that allows the young players have fun whilst learning!

Week by week, we work on the core skills required to play be that catching, throwing, footwork, shooting, defending and movement around the court, using a variety of drills and practices which get the girls working in small groups or pairs. As their knowledge of the game, the rules and the playing positions develops, we soon get them to the point where the session can end with a short match, setting the context for the skill and allowing them to practice in a more realistic game situation.

The December High 5 tournament provides the ideal setting for the newer players to cement these early skills and playing a succession of games with the older year group helps so many of them to really get to grips with the different positions and where they need to be on court. It is always a pleasure to see the smiling faces at the end of the afternoon.

Jonelle helped arrange some high 5 matches with local schools which were much appreciated by the players and the parents.

Our teenage helpers are an asset to themselves and our club and play an important role in helping the younger players develop. They were essential support this year both in keeping the players focused in small groups as well as helping on the days we had the matches with local schools.

In spite of the gruelling weather conditions we often had to endure outside this season, the girls remain enthusiastic and eager.

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## **25. Walking Netball (JA)**

The first year of Walking Netball has proved popular and successful. There are 28 ladies signed up but as always with a bunch of mums, there are so many things which tend to get in the way, and rarely has Linda had enough for 2 teams. Depending on how many ladies renew their membership, it might be worth increasing the number on the register for next season.

Thank you to Linda for running the sessions and to Becks for doing the admin.

LS mentioned that all players are keen, but find it difficult to guarantee their attendance due usually to parental responsibilities. It would therefore be useful to recruit a few more players.

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## **26. Any Other Business**

Following the direction of England Netball, we will be planning to return to play in September. As a result, the "What to Expect Next Season" email will be circulated to members in the coming weeks and subs will be collected in July. Included in the email will be details of the new league, hopefully with final dates for the 12 matches.

Following a conversation with our contact at Downsend, JA is able to report that the school are positive and encouraging regarding AAS's return to play as soon as Government guidelines allow.

JA and JD both keen to stress that should any player have difficulty with the payment of subs, particularly at this unusual time, JA should be informed in order that the club can offer support.

F Ford gave thanks to the committee and club, adding that the girls are very lucky.

JA hopes to organise a pre-season/end of summer event.

**Please forward any further questions/comments to EF who will forward to JA.**

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