

Ashtead All Stars Netball Club

Blue Cedar
142 Barnett Wood Lane
Ashtead
Surrey

KT21 2LL



1st AAS Annual General Meeting 2011 to 2012 Season

Tuesday 8th May 2012

Attendees:- Jane Arnett (JA) Louise Palmer (LP) Jane Davies (JD) Natalie Marchant (NM) Carmel Ring-Hrubeshova (CR) Ruth Parkinson (RP) Helen King (HK) Lynn DeSouza (LD) Jane Hill (JH) Becks McRobb (BM) Carol Tubb (CT) Jemini Tarling (JT)

Apologies:- Helen Parker (HP), Hazel Baptiste-Wilson, Juliet Grun, Laura McArthur (LM), Fiona Young, Joanne Leonard, Louise Patterson, Cathy Calverley (CC), Linda Lewis, Lisa Gadsby, Sam Sims, Debbie Marjot, Bev Grace, Tracie Fanthorpe

1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chair

JA welcomed everyone to the first AGM for Ashtead All Stars. JA hoped everyone would find the meeting informative and useful. JA wanted to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to discuss what goes on at the club, so that we can plan for the future and make sure that the club can achieve the best for each child.

2. Chair's Report by JA

As you all know, Ashtead All Stars was founded in August 2011, and it has just completed its first ever season. What was just a dream a year ago, has now become a reality. And what was just going to be a trial year, has proved to be too successful and too much fun to give up.

From my perspective, and from the feedback I have received, the girls have really enjoyed their netball this season. And more than just enjoying the netball, I think they have really enjoyed being part of their own Ashtead Club. This is of paramount importance to me. I have benefited hugely from being part of netball clubs all my life. It has kept me fit, given me confidence, given me friends, and has given me life skills in terms of camaraderie, teamwork and leadership. Although the club should be ambitious in its achievements, it should also provide an environment where all girls can improve their skills, enjoy themselves whatever their ability, and hopefully become proficient at a sport which they can take on into later life.

Later we will discuss the Club's Constitution and "Mission Statement" so that we can ensure we all have a similar vision for the club, and so that all decisions can be made with the mission statement in mind.

Up to this point, all decisions have been mine, but if we want to become a bigger and better club, we have to share the responsibility, and therefore tonight we will be electing officers for the Executive Committee.

We started the season with a "Cake Sale" at Ashtead Football Club, where we made £213 to help us with our club start up costs. Then we nervously approached our first official club fixtures in the Nonsuch Junior League, not knowing quite what to expect. We bravely entered 3 teams into the League; U12A, U12B and high5. Although we have had mixed success, all matches have been enjoyable, the girls have always been positive, and we have learned a lot for next season. We have also enjoyed friendly matches against Mole Valley, Dorking and Fairlands.

Finally I would like to thank all the parents for their support throughout the season.

3. Appointment of Officers

Chair :-	HK nominated JA, RP Seconded
Secretary:-	JA nominated HK & JT, NM Seconded
Treasurer:-	JA nominated JD, NM Seconded
Publicity Officer and Web Manager:-	JA nominated CR, JD Seconded
Events & Fund Raising Officer:-	Vacant
Child Welfare Officer:-	JA nominated CC, BM seconded
U12/13 Year Group Manager:-	JD nominated JA, LP seconded
U11 Year Group Manager:-	JA nominated NM, LP seconded
U10 Year Group Manager:-	JA nominated RP, CT seconded
Fixtures Secretary:-	JA nominated LM, CR seconded
Kit Secretary:-	JA nominated HP, JD seconded

The Secretary's job is being shared by Helen King and Jemini Tarling, with Jemini taking on the "New Members" aspect of the job.

Although we have all the above Officers, only a subset of these comprise the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee makes all the decisions for the Club and comprises the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer and Web Manager and the Year Group Managers. The Executive Committee will convene at least twice a year,

4. Treasurers Report by JD

A successful first season, with the bank account looking healthy going into the 2012/2013 season. Thanks go to our sponsor, Profile Support Services, who provided money for the purchase of kit and equipment. We were pleased also to have been able to fund umpiring qualifications and courses for our coaches. Proposed fees for next season are £90 which will include affiliation with England Netball. This will be payable in one or two instalments. As with this season, matches will be charged on top at £4 per match. With the formal structure of the club now being put in place, we may look to apply for funding at some stage in the future.

5. Kit Report by JD/JA/HP

Everyone felt the kit looked really good and the club has had some positive enquires as a result of the girls wearing their hoodies. It was felt there should be a small number of additional hoodies and skorts as spares for the girls, with also a couple of adult hoodies for event days e.g. Ashtead Village Day. It would be looked into about white skins for next season. It was agreed that AAS T-shirts would be a good idea for training and for promotional purposes.

6. Publicity Officer's Report by CR

Logo

The AAS logo is now in use on the club documentation, the website and on the player and coaches sweatshirts. Any further kit or resources for the club could use the logo. The AAS logo should only be used by AAS Netball Club and only with the joint agreement of the AAS Publicity Officer and the AAS Chairman.

Website

We are currently using Pitchero to host the AAS web pages. Although up to this point we have used their original domain name we are now in the process of buying the www.ashteadallstars.com domain name. There is the option to do this for one year up to ten years, with a discounted price ranging from 5.99 + VAT to 59.98 + VAT.

The website has ranked quite highly in the ratings of netball clubs using the Pitchero facility with peaks when it was first set up and later when fixtures, photos and documents were added. Up until now we have only explored part of what the website has to offer and as the club grows and becomes more established the website will play a larger role in how the club communicates with parents/guardians, sponsors, affiliated clubs and prospective players.

To utilise the website properly all current players and new players need to register through a parent/guardian. Once registered parents/guardians can access club emails, club news and updates, fixture lists, player lists, photos and documents online.

If there is enough interest from parents/guardians, we could arrange a registration evening in September when parents can come and register and have a 'hands on' mini training session in how to use the website.

Ideally there would be at least two parents in each school year group who would be willing to take on the Team Admin role on the website. The Team Admin role doesn't mean you have to be very web savvy, you can simply log in and then update fixtures.

The website provides information for those interested in joining the club but allows information to be shared in a secure environment and without disclosing personal details of club members. Documents can be locked so that only registered members can access them.

Publicity

The Leatherhead Advertiser came to our final club training and presentation evening this March. There is a link to the online article and photos on our AAS website, in the most recent article in club news.

When the girls turn up to any event wearing their kit and especially their purple sweatshirts, they are a great advert for the club and spark interest. This was seen when they went to coaching for the Surrey Youth Games and when they carried out a fundraising cake sale. Jane noted a surge in enquiries about the club.

AAS are currently registered with England Netball, Surrey County Netball, on the Family Information Directory on the Surrey County Council website and on Pitchero. Anyone trying to find out about a local netball club in Ashted should be directed straight to the club. When we have our own www.ashtedallstars.com domain name it will be even easier to direct people to us.

If we want to expand there are other opportunities we could explore to do this but this will only follow on from discussion and agreements made at the 2012 AGM.

If you have any suggestions for the website or publicity ideas please contact the AAS Publicity Officer

In order to create a Under 12's team JA will publicise the club to the local secondary schools.

7. Coach's Report by JA

It has been very rewarding watching the girls progress during the season. You will all remember the high5 girls in their first Nonsuch matches, not knowing where to stand and which direction to move in, and then you will have noticed the marked improvement by the end.

Training has been quite a learning curve as I have adjusted to teaching 30 girls from 3 different age groups at very different standards. Each week we have learned better ways of ensuring that all the girls get the most they can out of the hour. Hazel and Natalie have been invaluable at training, and we were extremely fortunate to also have our volunteer Duke of Edinburgh girls enabling us to work in much smaller groups. Next year, we are hoping that Hazel may get an opportunity to take a coaching qualification, and Natalie and I are waiting to be given a date for our umpiring tests. Also we are very lucky to be having Ruth Parkinson join us on the coaching team.

Later on we will be discussing proposals for next season so that we can accommodate the new year 5 intake.

Training has been frustrating at times due the attitude of some of the girls. There are some girls that clearly want to learn and some girls that are definitely more interested in the social, and this is something I need to be firm on. Although I want this to be a fun, sociable club, it is also a competitive sports club, and training must be taken seriously. Next season I will be expecting all the girls to sign a Code of Conduct, so they know what is expected of them.

Next season we will be doing more in terms of selection. Selection will be a new thing to some of the girls, but it is a necessary part of a sports club, and the girls will need to adjust to this aspect of the club. I will endeavour to manage this with as much care as possible, but there are bound to be some ups and downs. I hope you parents will support me with this, so that girls who are moved down will be motivated to work to get back up, and so that girls who are moved up, are aware that they need to work to keep their place. There will also be girls who despite their best endeavours may not make the League teams; again this needs to be managed carefully. There will still be friendly matches for these girls. And it must be remembered that all girls, especially at this early stage, develop at very different rates. Some of the slowest starters can become the most proficient later, and vice versa. It should also be noted that I will be selecting on hard work and attitude at training as well as on ability, so hopefully this will focus the girls' minds.

As coach, I appreciate all your comments, and will take them all seriously. So if you or your daughter are unhappy about something, then please tell me. If I don't know what you are thinking then I won't be able to do anything about it. So please do let me know if you have any concerns, and we can work together to resolve the problem.

I have high hopes for all the teams next season, and I look forward to another great season of netball.

8. New Club Structure by JA

We discussed, at length, how the club should be structured next season, in terms of teams, training times, selection etc. and the agreed way forward is detailed here.

New Club Structure for 2012/2013

Training

- Training will be on a Monday night, 5 – 6pm for U10s, and 6 – 7pm for the U11s, U12s &U13s.
- *(Ideally, and certainly the plan for the following season, would be to have the U10s and U11s 5 – 6pm, and the other age groups 6 – 7pm. This keeps all the high5 netball together at 5pm, and the 7-a-side netball at 6pm. However, we are aware that some girls may not be able to change their current training time, and we do not want to lose existing players. So this is the plan for this year ONLY.)*
- Jane Arnett will be the Lead Coach for both sessions, assisted by Ruth Parkinson for the U10 session, and assisted by Natalie Marchant and Hazel Baptiste Wilson for the second session.
- Volunteer teenage helpers are always welcome and we will look into this nearer the time.
- The girls for the second session should arrive at 5.45pm in order to warm up, so that training can start in earnest at 6pm.

Teams for the 2012/2013 Season

U13s and U12s : Year Group Manager : Jane Arnett

There will be two U13 teams. The U13 teams will include U12 players because there are currently not enough U12 players for them to have their own team. The U13A team will play in the Nonsuch Junior League A division. The U13B team will play in the Nonsuch Junior League B division. Trials will take place in the first week of training to select 7 players for the A team. It is important that the girls who trial for the A team must be available for the 4 League fixtures. The rest of the age group will be B team players, but will have the opportunity to work for a place in the A team. Trials may take place over 2 weeks if deemed necessary.

The U13B team will be selected each time they play so they will have to work for their positions. Some girls may not get selected for the U13B League matches as there may be more players than places, and this year we have to get more selective for League matches. However it will be the club's endeavour to provide every player with 4 matches per season, whether they be League or non-League matches. The Year Group Manager has the responsibility of trying to ensure that each player has the opportunity to play in at least 4 fixtures.

U11s : Year 6s : Year Group Manager : Natalie Marchant

There will be two U11 teams, an A team and a B team, both teams will be entered into the Nonsuch Junior League High5 tournament. Selection will be made each time they play so it is not set in stone who is in the A and B teams. There can be movement between teams because the teams will be playing in the same competition and therefore will have to play against each other in the League.

With the current numbers, all girls should have a place in one of the teams, so all girls will get the opportunity to play in 4 League fixtures. However, should numbers increase vastly, then some players may not get a chance to play in League matches. Should this happen, the club will endeavour to provide every player with at least 4 matches per season, whether they be League or non-League matches. This will be managed by the Year Group Manager who has the responsibility of trying to ensure that each player has the opportunity to play in at least 4 fixtures.

(Please note, although I hope this to be the case, we are not guaranteed an extra place in the Nonsuch Junior League for a B team. We are only guaranteed the places we had last year. This will be confirmed in September)

U10s : Year 5s : Year Group Manager : Ruth Parkinson

We hope to be able to enter 2 teams into the Nonsuch Junior League, high5 division.

(Please note, there are no guarantees that there will be places for 2 new AAS teams, I have put in a request and we will find out in September.)

The 2 teams will be mixed ability, everyone will get an opportunity to take part, and they will play as Ashtead All Stars C and D teams (although we may want to call them something more appropriate). If we have more players than places, then we will need to arrange some non-League fixtures. The Year Group Manager has the responsibility of trying to ensure that each player has the opportunity to play in at least 4 fixtures over the season.

9. Constitution/Mission Statement by JA

The Club Constitution is a separate document written by JA and agreed by everyone at the AGM. Most importantly the Club's Mission Statement, at the beginning of the Constitution, was discussed.

Ashtead All Stars Mission Statement: AAS aims to make all members feel welcome and valued. The emphasis is on fun in a positive and safe environment, but with an equally strong emphasis on skill development and match play in an effort to reach each child's potential, and the Club's potential. All players must be willing to learn, and we will encourage them to have a positive and respectful attitude at all times. AAS is proud to be a Club, and it strongly encourages teamwork and clubmanship, supporting each other for mutual enjoyment and success.

JD proposed that this was appropriate. LP seconded.

10. A.O.B

- Ashtead Village Day. The Rotary Club said we can have the netball courts for free. JA suggested a shooting game. 50p with a sweet as prize. CR to do banners and posters. RP to do flyers.
- School Fairs. JA going to do a Shooting Competition at West Ashtead's May fair, and if successful, may approach other Junior schools.
- Raising Profile - CR to advertise in Grapevine. RP to talk to Ashtead Local
- Olympic Road Race – 28th July. Helen King to organise
- AAS Tour to Shropshire in 5-7th October - 8 girls and 7 adults going.