

11th AAS Annual General Meeting 2021 to 2022 Season

Thursday 12th May 2022

Committee Attendees: Jane Arnett (JA), Jane Davies (JD), Natalie Marchant (NM), Emma Feltham (EF), Kelly Durbridge (KD), Monica Church (MC), Sarah Hallett (SH), Jo Pickup (JP), Emma Wakelin (EW), Katy Bridgens (KB), Linda Shirley (LS), Sarah Little (SL), Dan Beck (DB), John Busby (JB), Jennie Rolfe (JR), Rachel Day (RD), Sarah Tennent (ST),

Others Present:

Apologies: Sally Grimshaw (SG), Becks McRobb (RM), Jo Lloyd-Aziz (JLA), Tara Youngman (TY), Stephanie Carthy (SC), Nicola Brember (NB), Vanessa Rapier (VR)

1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chair

JA welcomed everyone to the 11th AAS AGM and thanked NM for hosting.

2. Agreement of last season's AGM minutes

Minutes from the last AGM were agreed, with one safeguarding update. Volunteers are now required to complete an online NSPCC course. SH to circulate information.

3. Appointment of Officers

The executive committee remains as last season and all officers were nominated/seconded by committee members.

Executive Committee (5 members)

Chair: [Jane Arnett](#)

Vice Chair: [Natalie Marchant](#)

Membership Secretary and Data Protection Lead (DPL): [Tara Youngman](#)

Treasurer: [Jane Davies](#)

Child Welfare Officer: [Sarah Hallett](#)

Head Coach: [Jane Arnett](#)

Notable changes to the management committee include the departure of David Grimshaw, to whom we offer our thanks for his amazing work in the role of Events Officer. Both the Christmas and end of season tournaments were terrific. This now leaves a vacancy in events. We also have vacancies in two other roles: Alumini Officer and U13 Admin.

Management Committee

Events Officer: [Vacant](#)

Kit Secretary: [Sarah Little](#)

Publicity Officer: [Rebecca McRobb](#)

Web Manager: [Sally Grimshaw](#)

Assistant Treasurer: [Katy Bridgens](#)

Club Administrator: [Emma Feltham](#)

Umpiring Secretary: [Kelly Durbridge](#)

Social Media Officer: [Natalie Marchant](#)

Health & Safety Officer: [Dan Beck](#)

Alumni Officer: [Vacant](#)

Facilities Officer: [Nicola Brember](#)

Ladies' Admin: [Jo Pickup](#)

U16 Admin: [Jo Pickup](#)

U15 Admin: [Sarah Tennent](#)

U14 Admin: [John Busby](#)

U13 Admin: [Vacant](#)

U12 Admin: [Rachel Day](#)

U11 Admin: [Jo Lloyd-Aziz](#)

U10 Admin: [Stephanie Carthy](#)

U9 Admin: [Jennie Rolfe](#)

U8 Admin: [Vanessa Rapier](#)

Walking Netball Admin: [Rebecca McRobb](#)

Coaches: [Jane Arnett](#), [Natalie Marchant](#), [Emma Wakelin](#), [Monica Church](#), [Kelly Durbridge](#), [Linda Shirley](#)

4. Chair's Report by JA

This year has been like any other in that all our coaches and committee members dedicate a huge amount of time to the club and to the players. Whilst none of us would do it if we didn't enjoy it, it can still be quite overwhelming at times, and I want to acknowledge the amount of effort that I know everyone puts in to make AAS such a success. Having reached the end of the trials and tribulations of Covid, I can honestly say that I believe that the club has not only 'survived' but has actually 'thrived' with everyone having been even more determined than ever to find ways to keep the club alive. For all the positive experiences, the lovely comments, and all the happy customers, there is inevitably the odd negative situation we have to deal with, and I know that I for one am still affected by these incidents. Sometimes we just can't please everyone, and whilst it is upsetting, as long as we know that we have done our very best, then that is all we can do. To anyone new on the committee, please remember that we are a team, and we are all here to help and support each other, and we do.

The club is a big club now, and communication is key. If you hear any rumblings, or any negative comments on the sidelines, it is usually due to a lack of understanding or a miscommunication rather than anything else, and once explained the situation is usually resolved. So, we must all keep on top of our messages and ensure that we are timely, transparent and caring with our emails and our responses.

We are providing a safe, happy community environment for hundreds of girls and parents, and we should always remember this and be very proud. Thank you for another fantastic year at AAS, and I look forward to the next.

As always, teamwork makes the dreamwork!!!

5. Treasurers Report (JD)

| FUNDS | £ |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Opening bank balance 1/6/21 | 38,445.00 (includes prepayments for this seasons subs) |
| Income 2021-22 | 59,841.05 |
| Expenditure 2021-22 | -81,765.63 |
| Prepayments 2022/23 season | 7,470.00 |
| Current bank balance as at 08/05/22 | 23,990.42 |

INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2020/21

1/6/21-08/05/22

| Run The Club | Notes | Income | Expenditure | Net 2022 | Net 2021 |
|------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Subs 2021/22 | | 35,529.40 | -1,328.00 | 34,201.40 | 28,681.50 |
| Squad 2021/22 | | 5,179.00 | -30.00 | 5,149.00 | 1,665.00 |
| Equipment | £110=balls | 110.00 | -1,819.04 | -1,709.04 | -1,221.58 |
| Coaches | | 0.00 | -15,154.94 | -15,154.94 | -7,452.45 |
| Courses/DBS | | 0.00 | -920.05 | -920.05 | -827.48 |
| Courts/Facilities | | 0.00 | -10,265.40 | -10,265.40 | -2,929.00 |
| | | 40,818.40 | -29,517.43 | 11,300.97 | 17,915.99 |
| Match Costs | | | | | |
| Match fees | | 7,549.95 | -5.00 | 7,544.95 | 4,885.51 |
| Coaches/umpires | | 0.00 | -16,105.55 | -16,105.55 | -3,049.60 |
| Ligue/Tenant Fees | | 0.00 | -1,489.50 | -1,489.50 | 260.00 |
| Courts | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | -607.00 |
| | | 7,549.95 | -17,581.05 | -10,031.10 | 1,488.91 |
| SUBTOTAL | | 48,368.35 | -47,098.48 | 1,269.87 | 19,404.90 |
| Kit | | | | | |
| Kit | | 0.00 | -1,185.25 | -1,185.25 | -2,423.10 |
| Tournaments | | | | | |
| | | 2,880.60 | -3,793.54 | -912.94 | 0.00 |
| Other | | | | | |
| Misc | | 80.00 | -6,267.93 | -6,187.93 | -44.53 |
| Tour | | 6,487.50 | -5,595.55 | 891.95 | 515.05 |
| Anniversary Dinner | | 180.00 | -1,100.00 | -920.00 | 1,180.00 |
| Summer Netball 2021 | | 0.00 | -15,817.50 | -15,817.50 | -374.50 |
| Summer netball subs | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Summer netball coaches | | 0.00 | -9,968.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Summer netball courts | | 0.00 | -5,849.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | | 57,996.45 | -80,858.25 | -22,861.80 | 18,237.82 |
| Summer Netball 2022 | | 7,470.00 | 0.00 | 7,470.00 | |

NOTES/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Current bank balance = £23,990.42
 pending transfer from Adult paypal of £1,700 approx?? for match fees and additional training out of which still to pay:
 Downsend spring term costs (winter cost = £7k)
 Summer netball costs (fewer sessions this year?)

6. Secretary's Report (TY)

This season was the first year of my tenure as Secretary and DPL and I would like to thank Monica for her patience in getting me familiar with everything involved.

Membership update

Our membership is now 327. This is as a result of an increase in junior members following successful trials both last Summer and those that have taken place in the last month. We continue to see a large number of enquiries to join our club and there are always potential new members on the waiting list. Sarah will provide more information on this.

| Season | Juniors | Adults | Total |
|-----------|---------|--------|-------|
| 2021-2022 | 256 | 71 | 327 |
| 2020_2021 | 213 | 69 | 282 |
| 2019-2020 | 222 | 42 | 264 |
| 2018-2019 | 204 | 20 | 224 |
| 2017-2018 | 210 | 19 | 229 |
| 2016-2017 | - | - | 198 |

However, it has been noted that there are very few state school girls in the new members joining our club at the younger age groups. This may be due to the fact that we have a good presence at Downsend and CLFS so primarily attract their pupils. These schools are also offering netball during their games/PE lessons so their pupils are getting interested in netball as a sport at a younger age, unlike the state schools. As a club we want to ensure all girls have the same opportunities to play netball, so we approached three of the local state schools requesting that they include information regarding AAS in their newsletter. Unfortunately, only one school agreed to this request and we await to see if there is more interest from state schools in the new intake this September. We are now collecting school information via the website on our online waiting list enquiry form so will be able to monitor this going forward.

Leavers

There were 22 leavers from the end of last season (those that did not renew) and so far this season. The overriding reason given was too many commitments either through other sports or academic pressures at school. Whilst it is sad to see these girls leave, we often get fantastic feedback from their parents as to the time their daughter spent at the club.

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.

7. Safeguarding Officer's Report (SH)

Safeguarding

DBS checks and Safeguarding training requirements have been updated/renewed as and when needed throughout the season. This year we streamlined the number of volunteers we DBS check – this is in line with EN requirements.

Looking forward to next season – EN are rebranding/updating a number of safeguarding policies and currently building a safeguarding 'toolbox'. One key area of change is the breadth of Safeguarding training expected by EN. I will keep an eye on this and make sure any changes we need to make are completed in preparation for the new season.

I'm attending the launch of "safe to play", which is a campaign on safeguarding in sport, and will report back.

Waiting List

It has been another busy year for the waiting list – With different age groups trialling at different times, the list is fluid. However, as a guide, we have had approximately 250 membership enquiries this year across all age groups.

We added a "school" field to the online membership enquiry form – this highlights where we need to increase awareness of the club and ensure we remain a club that is diverse, inclusive and provides opportunity for all.

8. Head Coach's Report (JA)

This year we decided to get more help for our Lead coaches, and I think it has really made a difference. It has cost us more, but has made life a little easier for the Lead coaches and it has helped us provide better sessions for the girls.

We were lucky to have Ameera Sadiq and Josie Pinnock helping us with coaching during their gap years, as well as our qualified assistant coaches Abby Graham-Maw, Izzy Murphy, Megan Feltham, Imogen Coldicott and Charlotte Cotchings.

Sadly, we lose all of these girls to university next season, or travelling, or working away, but we already have a team of new girls ready to learn the ropes.

Grace P, Katie Mc, Josephine A, Lily B, Millie C and Zoe T have all done some coaching as part of their DofE volunteering, and we hope they continue to work for us with a view to taking their qualifications in due course. Jo Duff, Lucy Fitzgerald and Jo L-A have already booked themselves on to their Level 1 courses this summer, and we have a new cohort of girls who have already expressed an interest in getting involved with coaching and so I have already scheduled them in.

The Lead Coach team of Monica, Emma, Kelly, Natalie and me has worked really well, and we have all supported each other, and worked well as a team.

9. Kit Secretary's Report (SL)

This year has been largely uneventful for AAS kit as XRCISE has continued to supply players and coaches with our bespoke kit. Richard Trevarthen prepared tour T shirts last June/July which were sadly not needed as the tours were cancelled, however the template is ready for future use. Sarah Little kindly agreed to take over responsibility for kit from Jo Pickup early in 2022. Sarah ran a second-hand kit stall at the End of Season Tournament which raised approximately £160. The stall was popular with parents and we will appeal for more second-hand kit donations in September when full netball resumes. We have a large stock of bespoke water bottles that we will also look to sell in the new season.

10. Website Officer's Report (SG)

The "Go Daddy.com" products will be due for renewal in May and June:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Website subscription | £191.88 |
| SSL certificate to the website | £66.99 |
| Email hosting | £131.40 |

Currently set up are:

clubsecretary@ashteadallstars.com; events@ashteadallstars.com; kit@ashteadallstars.com; treasurer@ashteadallstars.com

The aim continues to be 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.

Over the year the website has shown information on the ever-changing COVID situation. The enquiry form has been changed to include "current school".

The website will be updated and refreshed in the summer before the start of the season.

11. Publicity Officer's Report (RM)

It has been great to start publishing our news as we get back to the new normal. The Leatherhead Advertiser has printed 3 great stories recently and we will continue to send them interesting content. Going to explore other options as well to widen our reach. Please keep sending interesting stories throughout the next season.

12. Events Officer's Report (DG)

24th April 2022 saw our first club tournament in nearly 2 years with our 2022 End of Season Tournament, celebratory BBQ and awards ceremony held at Downsend. Whilst Covid led to the cancellation of the 2021 High 5 Tournament and our 10 year Anniversary Dinner Dance the End of Season Tournament was welcomed and supported by players and all those associated with the Club.

Events held since 2021 AGM

Ashtead All Stars End of Season Tournament

- A Tournament with 29 teams, c200 players, over 70 volunteers, hundreds of family and friends supporting and two special guests
- Celebratory BBQ which served nearly 600 burgers / sausages and a refreshment stand that raised over £300 for charity, thanks to Dan Beck (BBQ team leader) and Jo Duff (Refreshments team leader) for all their efforts
- Overall, I believe the whole event was a success and re-energised the support for the club

Cancelled / Postponed Events

Unfortunately, we had to cancel or postpone a number of events in the 2021/2022 season

- High 5 / Christmas Tournament, December 2021 – Cancelled
- AAS, 10 year Anniversary Celebration, April 2022 – Originally postponed from 2021, now cancelled as we struggled to reach the necessary numbers following 2 Covid hit years
- Netball @ Commonwealth Games, Birmingham, August 2022 - Group bookings were not supported but message sent to parents with details of how to book directly

Future Events

- High 5 Tournament, December 2022
- End of Season Tournament, April 2023

In 2019 Jane and I set out a three year plan for Ashted All Stars Events Team and whilst delayed I think the Events Team can be proud of what we have achieved (even if we Guinness Book of Records):

- Annual High 5 Christmas Tournament and End of Season Tournament
- Trip to 2019 Netball World Cup and
- 2019 Netball World Cup Finals BBQ
- AAS Covid quizzes (in place of tournaments)
- 10 + 1 year Celebratory BBQ (in place of Dinner / Dance)

The only thing we have yet to achieve is our entry in the Guinness Book of Records

13. Umpiring Secretary's Report (KD)

With the newly formed Surrey Junior Netball League, having three venues and certain age groups at each of them, it proved very hard for all our junior umpires to practice their umpiring this season. However, on the plus side all our junior umpires have now completed their 'Into Officiating Course'.

We managed to organise our adult fixtures (four teams most Saturdays) with umpires as well as our junior fixtures on Sundays at all the three venues.

In addition to our umpires already in the programme, we have a large group of new girls who have just recently joined. They are very keen, very eager to learn, have shown great confidence and are so enthusiastic. I am looking forward to seeing them through their umpiring journey.

We lose another one of our very own home-grown umpires this season, Charlotte C. Charlotte has umpired throughout all age groups including adults and has mentored so many of our younger girls through the years. We wish her all the best and thank you for your contribution.

14. Social Media Officer's Report (KD)

Nothing to really report on the social media, I have tried to keep small feeds going with news etc. I do not want to overload the accounts with the same content as it loses its appeal. Please keep sending pictures through especially of the juniors.

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

We would like to thank Matt for his exceptional work as H&S officer, particularly keeping us safe through Covid. He has been thorough, protective and professional - doing an unenviable job in the circumstances. Thank you to Dan Beck for offering to take on this role.

16. Facilities Officer Report (NB)

Challenging year trying to arrange facilities with Downsend, but we did manage to get all bookings we required. Currently still no official way to book at Downsend apart from emailing the business manager, but understand this is being worked hopefully for the 22/23 year.

We saw a few short notice cancellations of our planned use of the sports hall due to school concerts and events which required replanning by the coaching teams to accommodate. Covid obviously had its effect on spectators and parents being on site at the beginning of the season and we had to adhere to the school advise.

Safety of the girls arriving and leaving training has been a concern with the bottom carpark being used as a building site storage area and during Covid wasn't ideal with parents gathering while cars still trying to use it. New court surfaces have been very welcome at Downsend as previously the courts were unplayable in the wet, although not perfect, a great improvement.

Newly agreed changing and toilet facilities which the adult teams can use on Saturdays close to courts provided a dedicated space for league games which I hope has been successful?

Summer netball we were unable to get the Astro's but again, Downsend has been amicable with us and agreed to take the tennis nets down on Mondays to allows us to use the courts. If Astros are preferable for summer netball, we need to look at booking these at the beginning of the year. New Astro carpet is due to be laid in the summer hopefully with 4 netball court lines included.

21/22 saw us try and use COLFS indoor facilities but we moved away from this due to the lack of lighting along the walk ways and a few parents finding it difficult to be in 2 places at the same time. 22/23 will see us start to utilise the Therfield new indoor court one night a week.

New shed was purchased in October 21, and although very expensive, is a much needed addition to our storage needs, and we have been very lucky that Downsend have allowed us to house this on site.

Booking for the 22/23 training season, I would like to get organised and in to Downsend before the end of the term, as it seems more difficult to communicate with them during holiday periods.

With the school growing with year groups, we might find it increasingly difficult to book Saturdays courts, which we need to work out with Downsend's netball coach.

17. AAS Ladies' A/B Report (NM)

My adult teams have been an absolute delight to coach this year. The majority of the As and Bs have been an incredibly committed bunch, only ever rarely missing training or matches due to injury or family holidays. Even with injuries, I've had to actively prevent them from playing, as they'll tell me they're fine to carry on. Their love of netball shines through, especially considering the majority of these girls are taking their GCSEs and A levels this year, but are still at every session.

At training they are focused and super keen to learn and watching them build these skills into their Matchplay each week is incredibly satisfying to watch as a coach. For teams of such young athletes, they are playing with a maturity beyond their years and this is reflected in their success this year.

The Bs have been confirmed as winners of their Surrey league division, even before playing their last match and came mid table in their tougher Kingston division with some great performances.

The As have been exceptional, winning both Surrey and Kingston divisions unbeaten this season, scoring well over 800 goals in both leagues, which is unrivalled by any other team in any division. They are an incredibly talented group of athletes whom I'm hoping to see on the Super League stage at some point in future. Four of them are already on their way, with Anna, Evie and Rosie being selected for Surrey Storm U17s this season and Abby being selected for Storm U19 Futures.

I couldn't be more proud of both of my teams this season. Well done to all!

A special mention needs to go to Jo Pickup, who has been fantastic as our admin this year. Her organisational skills are exceptional and she has kept everything moving along brilliantly all season, which takes a huge amount of work off the coaches' shoulders.

Finally, a fond farewell to our University leavers again this year. We will miss you all immensely, but hope you will visit us every year for our new alumni annual fixture and we look forward to welcoming you back when you return from Uni. In the meantime, we very much hope that your netballing journey continues whilst at University and we look forward to hearing all about it.

AAS Ladies' C/D Report (KD)

It's been a great season for both teams but for different reasons.

Starting with the D team, it was really disappointing to see that despite having a large squad to select from, a lot of individuals were not available for a lot of matches this season and also their attendance to training was very poor. A massive thank you to the ladies that were committed to both and to the other members of our matchplay and our junior section who filled in on the occasions that availability was really low. This season the D Team has seen a few of our juniors make the step up to adults and it has been great for their development.

Christmas was a turning point for this team and the performances became more solid and consistent. The team finished 6th in Division 12 in the Kingston & District Netball League.

The C team had a fantastic season having won both, Division 10 in the Kingston & District Netball league and Division 7 in the Surrey League, as Champions. This is the first year we have had a consistent C team and it has been so rewarding seeing all the girls and ladies come together and have great camaraderie both on and off on the court. This has definitely been a huge part in their success this season.

Lastly, I would like to wish all the girls leaving us this year all the very best in their next chapter. Some of these girls have been with the club since Year 4 and it has been a real pleasure to see them grow not only as amazing athletes but wonderful people.

18. U15/16 Report (NM)

This has been a relatively challenging year, training wise for the U15/16s, with the commitment to training not quite being what it should, resulting in sessions having to be rethought at the last minute and a lack of continuity each week, as we have different combinations of players. This was tough on the girls that trained week in week out. Even after repeated requests, we were still getting numerous players dropping out an hour or so before training, although it did improve on my side in the second half of the season. The behaviour and focus of some U15s in the first half season was also not what it should have been, but did improve after Christmas.

These factors were then reflected in the standard of Matchplay on Sundays. Although we have some perfectly able girls, the cohesiveness of the teams was lacking for much of the season. The main exception was the U16A team, who after their first couple of matches, really gelled and finished the league in fourth place, having beaten the top two teams.

On a positive note, the effort levels in matches from all four teams was good and with some challenging matches, they persevered and worked hard. For the girls who showed real commitment and focus throughout the season, we really applaud your efforts. Well done girls!

A huge thank you to Dan for being admin this season and to Charlotte for assisting me with coaching. You've both been great.

19. U14 Report (JA)

As always, this year group never fails to disappoint. They have always been a positive, happy, able and totally committed group of friends.

My U14A team were Bronze medallists in the U14A division of the new Surrey Junior Netball League, the U14B team were Silver medallists in the B division and the U14C came 4th out of 9 teams in the D division

Thank you to Emma Wakelin for being the admin since we started, and thank you to Sarah T for offering to take over this year.

Thank you to Megan Feltham and Izzy Murphy, my Level 1s, and thank you also to Jo Duff, Josie Pinnock and Ameera Sadiq for their invaluable help with the coaching.

20. U13 Report (JA)

The U13s were my big challenge this season. Having struggled a bit the year before, these girls really needed to win some matches to regain their confidence. We went completely back to basics. The girls worked tremendously hard, and in my opinion, they are transformed. There have still been some very tough matches to endure, but the girls have shown amazing teamwork, and they have really supported each other.

Thank you to Elayne Hobson for her admin, and thank you to John Busby for taking over part way through the season. Thank you also to Megan Feltham, my Level 1, and Ameera, Josie and Jo Duff for their help with the coaching.

The U13A came an impressive 6th out of 10 teams in the A division, the U13B came 8th of out 10 teams in the B division and the U13C came 5th out of 8 teams in the C division.

I have taken another 3 girls from trial, and I look forward to seeing what we can achieve next season.

21. U12 Report (KD)

A great season for the U12's this year. We had four teams enter into the newly formed Surrey Junior Netball League. The A team came 4th in the A division, narrowly missing out on goal difference, the Bs came 3rd in the B division, the Cs also came 3rd in the C division and the Ds came 4th in the D division.

Availability has been a slight issue in the Bs and Cs this year and thank you to all the girls both from the U12s and U11s, that have played up to enable us to for fill our fixtures.

Awards went to:

U12A Star Player – Lara Gowen

U12B Star Player – Charlotte Mason

U12C Star Player – Maria Birley

U12D Star Player – Kayla Kearns

U12 Most Improved Player – Caitlin George.

A huge thank you to Bern who has volunteered each week in helping coach the girls on a Monday and to Louise L for doing the admin.

We also have large group of girls, who have been nominated from both their schools and club, that have been put forward for the Surrey U13 workshops. We wish them all the very best and look forward to hearing how they have all gone on.

Lastly, we say goodbye to Imogen C and Charlotte C, our assistant coaches who leave to go to University. They are going to leave a huge hole in the age group as they have been coaching the girls since year 3. They have been a massive part of the group's success and the girls' development throughout these years and we will miss them very much. They have been fantastic coaches from running sessions, to umpiring and assisting on match days. I simply couldn't do what I do without them. Good Luck girls.

22. U11 Report (KD)

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the U11s this year, as they are so incredibly coachable. They are a very mature group, who listen carefully and work very hard. Thank you to Megan Feltham, Abby Graham-Maw and Izzy Murphy who helped me as Level 1 coaches. It is already a large group of 31 but I trialled 12 girls, and couldn't say no to any of them. I saw the new girls play at summer netball on Monday, and I am really pleased to say that they fitted in well, and look like a great addition to the year group.

We have 10 x U11s currently attending Surrey County Academy Workshops with a view to being selected for an U12 Academy place in September, so we wish these girls the very best of luck.

Despite having some very talented girls, particularly in the A team, we have struggled a little in the SJNL but have had some good matches. The U11A came 7th out of 8 teams in the A division, the U11B came 5th of out 8 teams in the B division, the U11C came 6th out of 9 teams in the C division, and the U11D came 5th out of 9 teams in the C division.

I have provisionally entered 5 teams for next season, and I am putting together a big coaching team to support the numbers.

Thank you to Emma Eaton for her admin at the beginning of the season, thank you to Rachel Day for taking over part way through, and I very much look forward to next season.

23. U10 Report (EW)

We had 33 girls registered in the U10 age group this season, 12 of whom were new to the club in September. Attendance at weekly training sessions was generally good with some very regular attendees only absent through illness or injury but there were a handful of patchy attenders and 3 who attended less than half of the 24 sessions (2 of whom have said they will not re-join next year due to other sporting commitments). The group was of mixed ability generally reflecting the level of access to school netball. Training at the beginning of the season included quite a bit of match play in preparation for the teams' first league matches. Drills focussed on teaching and instilling the basics.

We entered 3 teams into the SJNL with the intention of rotating players in the C team to offer everyone the opportunity to play some matches. In the event, with COVID impacting match availability particularly in the second half of the season, this wasn't too much of an issue. At most, players training regularly were not selected for 2 games (of the 9 played over the season) that they were available for. Leagues matches were played with good spirit despite some heavy defeats. The A team won 2 matches, scoring 81 goals to finish 7th (of 8), the B team won 4 matches scoring 67 goals to finish 5th and the C team also won 4 matches scoring 54 goals to finish 6th.

I am looking forward to working with this age group as they move into U11s next year. Trials are yet to be held but I am looking to add a handful of players to the year group and hope to be able to enter 4 teams into the league. Thank you to Jo Lloyd-Aziz for admin support (including sorting out a parent rota to help at training to fulfil adult:child ratios in the first half of the season) and also to Tara for getting everyone registered on ENgage.

Thank you also to Charlotte Cotchings, Megan Feltham and Abby Graham-Maw who very ably assisted with coaching for the whole season and to Imogen Caldicott who joined the coaching team after Christmas to provide a much needed extra pair of hands.

24. U9 Report (MC)

This was my first season as a lead coach with Ashtead All Stars. I'll admit, I felt nervous, I had very large shoes to fill. Jonelle and Ruth had set high standards for the minis and I really wanted to continue their good work in my first season. But I needn't have worried. I was adeptly supported by some of our first-class club home-grown young coaches, Grace H, Imogen C and Millie C and of course Jane and the other lead coaches, who offered advice and tips. I'd also like to thank Steph the U9's Group Admin. Steph has been brilliant and really made my life so much easier, thank you.

Training sessions for the minis moved from Saturday afternoons to Tuesday evenings 6-7pm on the exterior tennis courts at Downsends. We have 24 girls registered in the U9's, and despite the challenges that arose from absences due to Covid and compulsory isolation periods, we averaged attendance of 19 or so for most sessions.

Our training sessions focused on one or two basic netball skills, that we would then progress. This is a mixed ability cohort, and this was managed by splitting the girls into smaller groups, each assistant coach leading one group and supporting the girls in mastering that skill according to their level. The session was usually rounded off by playing matches, which the girls absolutely loved! This worked well as carrot, for some of the more spirited U9's!

We were unable to go ahead with the Christmas Hi-5 tournament because of Covid, which was so disappointing as this would have been the first time that many of the girls would have experienced what it's like to be part of our club and of course the opportunity to play competitive matches. As the saying goes 'necessity is the mother of invention'; so, we adapted, and ran mixed group 'mini-minis tournaments' during a couple of our training sessions, again the girls thoroughly enjoyed this.

We rounded off the season with the hotly anticipated 'AAS End of Season tournament'. We had 22/24 of our U9's taking part, and they all played brilliantly, I was so proud of them. I've had so many lovely messages from parents, praising the club for putting on this event; so a huge thank you to the entire events team for getting the show on the road.

Next season the U9's will step into the realm of league matches and will have the opportunity to represent our club. I have no doubt in my mind that they will be fantastic Ashtead All Stars ambassadors. I have had a great time coaching the U9's and I feel very fortunate that I have been a small part of their netball experience. I can't wait for the 2022-23 season to start!

25. U8 Report (JA)

The U8s are our youngest age group, and I had the privilege of starting them off on their netball journey with AAS. Obviously, some of the girls were already playing at their schools, but some of the girls had never played before, and I hope they have all got the netball bug and want to continue their journey with us. There has always been a good turn-out in some very cold conditions, and there has always been high spirits and lots of fun and laughter.

I had 3 DofE volunteers, Katie, Lily, and Josephine, all of whom stayed on to coach after their required period of volunteering ended, and I am really grateful for that. Also thank you to Megan Feltham who helped me as a Level 1, and Emma Feltham for doing the admin.

Jennie Rolfe has taken over from Emma as admin, so I am looking forward to working with Jennie next season.

26. Walking Netball (LS)

We have had good attendance throughout the season with an average of 12 ladies each week. It has made a big difference having the indoor facilities at Freeman's (Thanks to Jane for securing it for us).

The ladies have played some very good netball and most of all are having fun, socialising and getting a workout. We could have another 6 people on our register which would bring the total to 25 maybe then we would get 14 on court each week.

I have heard that an old member of our Walking netball has started a league up but in my opinion the fun of the game will be lost and originally Walking Netball was for fun and all abilities to be included. It was not started as a competitive sport.

27. Any Other Business

The coaching schedule has been updated to include training indoors at Therfield School, Leatherhead. Admins will send out message to their groups regarding time/location/fees once finalised and schedule received from JA.

Subs will be required between 6th June – 17th June this year.

Parents will be required to sign up to ENgage and pay EN membership from 1st August. Admins to chase.

JA closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.
