



# NORFOLK COUNTY NETBALL ASSOCIATION

# **REPORTS FOR THE ANNAUL GENERAL MEETING 2025**

# 1. CHAIR (Anne Harper)

Once again Norfolk has had a very busy year with all things netball. I must extend my sincere thanks to everyone on the Norfolk County committee whose hard work, endless hours and dedication often pass us by without being noticed. Without these volunteers the county would not be a thriving community where netball is enjoyed by so many people of all ages.

I'm sure every player in all five areas along with all umpires coaches and supporters would like to say a big 'thank you,' to everyone involved on the Norfolk committee making sure netball continues to flourish.

Looking ahead to the AGM we hope we will be able to welcome new people to the team which will strengthen the committee and fill vacant posts.

Everyone works to improve the netball experience and everyone's ideas, views and voices are always listened to in order to move forward and flourish.

Governance always proves a challenge to make sure we complete Tier 1. Every county in our region does this review annually. It's a health check to ensure Norfolk is moving in the right direction.

Within Tier 1 is a skills matrix which can prove tricky to comply with. As its name suggests counties are expected to have different skills, experiences and abilities across the committee. We rely on volunteers to do different roles and we are not in the position to refuse help just because the person does not have exactly what the matrix is asking for.

Recruitment is always a challenge. There are many in our wider community who have what it takes to volunteer and help to develop netball where we live but persuading these folk to come along and join us is always a challenge. Sadly some leads have had to step back due to various reasons but mainly stresses at work, not enough free time and family life. We all have very busy lives juggling several things at once but we buckle down and plough through the work that each volunteer has to do. We all get there eventually, however, there are times when we need support and simply asking for help not only relieves pressure on individuals but makes us aware that people do need help from time to time.

You will see from The Treasurer's report that Norfolk has supported different groups and individuals who have needed financial help. We have looked at the financial support form to try to understand the needs of groups and people who request support. The Junior league, The West, athletes in The Performance Pathway and Walking Netball groups have all been helped by our members over the year.

County will always try to give assistance where we can use members' money across Norfolk not just in Norwich. The AGM is a chance to give out awards to those who have done so much for Norfolk. I personally feel it's a shame that more of us don't nominate clubs and individuals for awards in The East Region. There are eight categories in the One Awards and the information is sent out to all clubs via their area representatives.

We in Norfolk nominate those who we feel deserve recognition for a Long Service Award within Norfolk. Anyone can be nominated, it's just a very simple way of saying 'Thank you,' to those who have been working behind the scenes over a period of time.

We have held three tournaments throughout the year which have been a huge successes in different areas. The New Year tournament inside at UEA was supported really well and was





oversubscribed. All money raised was put back into the county pot to help fund future events and projects.

The Lyn Elvin tournament was held at Lynn Grove High School in The East. Every penny raised goes to The Big C cancer charity which is the charity of Lyn's family choice.

The Jean Liddle tournament was held at Aylsham High School in the North. With thanks to everyone who was there we were able to keep all the monies raised as the school did not need to charge us for cleaning! The profits were split, 50% that was raised went to the winners chosen charities and the other half was put back into county funds.

As you can see from my report Norfolk netball is alive and thriving! Long may this continue and thank you to the few who take the time to read this!!

## 2. TREASURER (Sue Howard)

As last year, most of our Income is derived from various memberships – in the last financial year this amounted to £6,986.69, plus Schools.

Within the last 12 months we have held three very successful tournaments to raise additional income for County together with the Lyn Elvin for the Big C Charity:-

- September 2024 Lynn Elvin
   Income from tournament £1,755.90 all of which was donated to Big C
- Winter Tournament in January indoors at the UEA raising £ 702.00 net profit
- Jean Liddle Tournament in April raising £ 1,507.14 profit £753.57 (50%) retained by Norfolk and the remaining 50% was shared between charities - McMillan, EACH & Big C – as requested by the winning teams.

In addition, Norfolk County have contributed, under the County Funding Support Scheme, to:-

- West Norfolk Netball Club 50% of cost of setting up new venue toward nets/posts and painting – total contribution £500
- Junior Players Support £ 300
- Individual Player in Financial Hardship £100

In addition, we have finalised the long standing query (since 2019) regarding the payments for Schools from EN to NCNA – and the schools Section have now been paid (£2,200+) and are up to date

We contribute to 5 x walking Netball sessions across Norfolk, Umpiring and Mentoring, Performance & Schools – which all require financial oversight.

We are currently working on the year end Accounts – year end being 30 April 2025 – and will then make available the Balance Sheet for the various activities during this Financial Year together with the current funds held by County

# 3. OFFICIATING LEAD (Sophie Pike)

It has been an extremely busy year and the most challenging I have experienced as a volunteer for over 30 years. The implementation of the New Rules took place throughout August and September with 16 Face to Face sessions taking place in Norwich, Rickinghall, Lowestoft by Gary Burgess and King's Lynn. I was also in Cambridge delivering a further four Face to Face session and two online sessions, due to a lack of tutors in Cambridge.





Game Management sessions produced by Sophie Pike and were delivered for all umpires umpiring in the ERYL as this is a requirement from the East. This was delivered by myself and Sue Brown.

Thanks go out to all tutors, assessors and mentors who give up so much of their valuable time to enable umpires to progress with the right guidance and care. These people are very much forgotten about and don't receive enough recognition for their huge commitment.

### **Assessments**

Congratulations to the following umpires on passing their assessments:-

IOA ASSESSMENT – Ella Rout, Helena Keeble, Kerry Todd, Amber Robertson, Aoife Moloney, Keelie Wincup, Jacqueline Rutter, Daniella Bila, Lizzie Roberts, Kyra Veasey, Adelaide Ottaway, Joanne Coughtrey, Neve McElroy and Sophie Allan.

C AWARD ASSESSMENT - Caitlin Dingle, Ellie Wagstaff, Sophie Hansell

B AWARD ASSESSMENT – Emma Foreman

Big thanks to all assessors for their time and availability in helping all these umpires to complete their assessments.

Informed on 22nd May 2025 that the IOA assessment fee will be increased from £33.00 to £35.00 from 1st September 2025.

### **IOA Practical Sessions**

These sessions are greatly appreciated by those learners who have attended the online sessions. We held three during this season, January, September and April with a total of 31 attendees. Thanks to our tutors, Sue Brown, Sophie Pike & Anne Harper.

### **Update On East Region League**

All Regional umpires attended the Game Management sessions prior to the season starting, a requirement from the East. 14 umpires from Norfolk took part in this seasons league, so a great commitment from them along with their other umpiring allocations within their leagues.

### **New Assessors**

Congratulations to Debbie Sutton on passing her Assessors observations and is now qualified to assess at IOA & C award level. Big thanks to Karen Last & Sophie Pike in their roles as supervisory assessors. Also congratulations to Sue Brown on qualifying as an A award assessor.

## **Meeting With All Umpiring Leads**

Our annual meeting with all umpiring leads took place in March 2025 giving leagues time to implement the new rules which were implemented in September 2024. All leagues were reminded to contact COL or LM if they had any issues or needed any support regarding officiating.

## **Other Umpiring Events**

## NATIONAL U14s

Congratulations to Debbie Sutton on being appointed to the U14s National in March. Also to Sue Brown on being appointed as assessor for the event.

### NATIONAL U16s

Congratulations to Karen Last on being appointed to the U16s National in May. Also to Sue Brown on being appointed as assessor for the event.





### **INSPIRATIONAL TRUST**

Thanks again to all the umpires who covered this event over two days, Keelie Wincup, Anne Harper, Carla Wilkins, Joanne Coughtrey, Ashley Pinches, Heather Madden and Nikki Belcher-Brown. Evaluation form was created by myself and sent out to all umpires who attended, this was then sent on to Paul Wayman, organiser for this event.

#### SCHOOLS COUNTY ROUNDS

Thanks to all the umpires who covered the U14/U16 & U19s again over two days, U19s - Anne Harper, Dinky Topley, Emma Foreman, Sammy Harewood, Karen Last, Nikki Belcher-Brown, Kerry Lincoln, Jill Masdin and Lorraine Nabarro. U14/U16s — Lauren Fowler, Beverley Calver, Kerry Garrett, Karen Oakley, Louise Benstead, Karen Mobbs, Nicola Harrison, Gill Jennings, Emma Foreman, Deb Sutton, Carla Wilkins, Laura Harvey, Anna Bright, Karla Snowling, Nikki Belcher-Brown, Sophie Hansell, Ellie Wagstaff, Keelie Wincup and Deborah Smith. Thanks to Sue Brown for organising the mentors for the day.

## **BUCs LEAGUE**

Again a busy season thanks to all umpires. Umpires allocated - Gina Hopkinson, Victoria Ogden, Karen Last, Anne Harper, Nikki Belcher-Brown, Shelley James, Sophie Pike and Dinky Topley.

### MENS & MIXED LEAGUE

This is the first season that the County has provided umpires for these leagues. Thanks again to all umpires. Umpires allocated Sophie Pike, Nikki Belcher-Brown, Anne Harper, Karen Last, Carla Wilkins and Deb Sutton

### B Theory Sessions

Presentation produced & delivered by Sophie Pike on 8<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May.

### MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY

8 East Region Officiating TSG, 4 England Netball County Officiating Leads. 9 East Region Officiating Conference Project Team. 1 League Umpiring Leads. 2 NNL Officiating. 1 Mentors & Assessors. 4 NCNA. 3 NCNA & NNL with Chair of East Officiating.

### **COURSES DELIVERED**

16 INTO officiating online sessions, 12 C award online sessions, 2 B award online sessions and 1 B award practical session.

## 4. UMPIRING MENTOR LEAD (Sue Brown)

The Norfolk mentors/coaches are a group of volunteers who work with up and coming new umpires by sharing their knowledge and expertise to help the umpires work towards a qualification. Which is a big commitment along with their other roles (players, coaches, umpires), so thank you to you all for your time and I am sure all the newly qualified umpires out there would also like to express their gratitude as the help of mentors is invaluable.

Mentoring is offered to umpires working towards an assessment either the EN Into Officiating Award or the NE C Award. Coaching is offered to umpires working towards assessment in the NE B and A Awards.

A Award and Panel umpires can coach B to A umpires, B Award umpires can coach C to B umpires and C Award umpires can mentor Into Officiating and those umpires working towards their C Award assessment.





We have had the mentor workforce increase with two new ones able to mentor up to C award and two able to mentor up to B award.

Over the last season there have been 12 IOA Learners, 12 C Award Learners, nine B Award Learners and one A award Learners been or currently being mentored to their award.

If anyone is interested in becoming a mentor please get in touch and I can discuss the criteria and see if it is something you can help with.

If anyone has any queries or questions around mentoring from a mentor or mentee point of view, please get in touch, I am here to support both.

As part of my role I attend Regional Lead Mentors meetings where we share information and also help the Regional Lead offer mentoring support around the County, attending Regional events to support the umpires.

## 5. COMPETITION LEAD (Michelle James)

I was hoping to report the finishing positions of Norfolk's teams in both the national and regional leagues, unfortunately, some of the information is not up to date on the official websites so I can only say the Norfolk United finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place in Division 2 of the Premier League and that Thoroughbreds won the East Region Senior League Play-off to remain in Division 3 of that League for 2025/26. UEA, who were representing Norfolk in the play-offs, were unsuccessful.

# **6. TOURNAMENT SECRETARY (Lorraine Narbarro)**

So far this year NCNA have organised two tournaments:

- The New Year Tournament (January 18<sup>th</sup>)
- The Jean Liddle Tournament (April 27<sup>th</sup>)

Both of the tournaments were well supported, with all spaces filled very quickly and a reserve list set up. Teams have been excellent at getting information that I need to me quickly and meeting deadlines. Teams have also been very generous with donating raffle prizes to help boost the amount of money raised.

Unfortunately, there were a reduced number of team spaces available at the Jean Liddle Tournament due to one court being viewed as unsafe.

There is a further tournament, the Lyn Elvin, planned for August 31st. Save the dates have gone out for this and applications open at 9am on Saturday July 5th. There will be 16 spaces at this tournament. Fivespaces will be reserved until Lowestoft teams / Teams that Lyn Elvin used to play with.

The treasurer's report will give the financial details of the tournaments.

I would like to thank anyone who has supported me with the organisation and running of these tournaments both before, during and after the events.





# 7. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Sheelagh Redpath)

Three reports have been produced for the County meetings which contained hopefully a lot of information to help with some questions related to the Engage system.

Thanks to the four leagues who provided me with the names of the clubs that were involved in their leagues; this made it easier when checking affiliation for any county tournament etc.

Regarding Tournaments – all affiliations were checked with very few that needed to be chased – in fact any queries tended to be related to players being affiliated to another county. Thanks to those team who came back very quickly with the correct information.

I would like clubs who are entering teams into any county tournament to please ensure that if they are using a team name that is not registered as part of their club that they please include the club's name.

Some of the issues with Engage seem to be around the following

- Linking a person's membership to the League they are playing in and the County
- Lining the club they are affiliating to
- Also if members say that they never receive information or surveys form England Netball then that is because they might not have ticked the appropriate boxes in the Communication section on their own Engage membership page
- Also out of x1903 members there IS only 82 who have their club listed against their name!

I am hoping to be able to produce user-friendly guidelines prior to the start of the September season to try and make the process of renewing membership slightly easier, although I am not going to guarantee this!

If any league or club or member has any questions regarding affiliation, they can always check on the England Netball website and if they can't find what they want please contact me and I together with our NDO Fliss will try and help

# 8. SCHOOLS SECRETARY (Jill Masdin)

## National Schools Competition – county round

These were held in November at the UEA.

U14: Winners: Norwich School Runners Up: Gresham's

U16: Winners: Norwich School Runners Up: Wymondham College

U19: Winners: Norwich School Runners Up: Gresham's

All the above then went on to represent Norfolk in the regional round held at Stanborough School, Herts. Well done to them all though especially Norwich School's U19 who came third and Wymondham College's U16s who finished fourth; a fantastic achievement.

Again, Gresham's School held U12 & U13 schools' netball tournaments which were very well attended by over 20 schools in our county. It was great to see so many schools from the county competing with a range of ability but with the same enthusiasm for enjoyment of playing.

U12: Cup Winners: Gresham's
Plate Winners: Notre Dame
Bowl Winners: Sheringham
Runners Up: Beeston hall
Runners Up: Thorpe St Andrew
Runners Up: Dereham Neatherd

U13: Cup Winners: Norwich School
Plate Winners: Sprowston
Bowl Winners: Springwood

Runners Up: Norwich High
Runners Up: Thorpe St Andrew
Runners Up: Notre Dame





We also managed to organise a competition for U13s & U15s state schools in March at the UEA which was very well received.

U13 Winners: Sprowston Runners Up: Thetford Academy 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Open Academy 4<sup>th</sup> place: Ormiston Venture

U15 Winners: Sprowston Runners Up: Notre Dame

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Wymondham College 4<sup>th</sup> place: Flegg

Thanks, as always, to all those involved in helping run all our schools' tournaments, leagues and friendly 'rock up and play' games in our areas as well as our county finals. It is great to see netball thriving in our wonderful county.

## 9. PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAD (Gemma Ashton)

We held a series of pre-trial training sessions over the Summer to prepare for the final trial. Due to regulations stipulated by England Netball, this must be held in September. Trials were run in accordance with EN recommendations. The process ran smoothly, and I feel that with every year we run the program, we refine our processes to increase their efficiency.

Our U11 Academy trained at Norwich School Sports Centre and was overseen this season by Sophie Hardman and then assisted by NCNA athlete and, Ava Shannon. Sophie is a new coach for NCNA this year and has proved to be a real asset to our coaching team. Athletes trained weekly for 25 sessions and then came together for 3 internal matchdays throughout the season. A big thank you to Sophie for leading the U11 program this year. This age group is tricky as I do not know of any other counties who run U11 programmes, and so competition is minimal.

The U13 Academies have been led by Head Coach, Sophie Hansell, and Assistant Coach, Keira Hardiman this season. They have trained weekly on Friday's at the UEA Sportspark, with our U13 Development Academy training 5-7pm and the U13 Academy 7-9pm. It has been a year in which we have seen a lot of individual athlete progress and some strong U13 results at matchdays and tournaments. I would like to extend my thanks to Sophie and Keira for their hard work. Keira will be venturing off to university in September, so after years with us as an athlete, and now coach, we send her off with our best wishes.

I have led the U15 academy this season as Head Coach, supported greatly by Claire Wells as my Assistant Coach, and Josh Marlow as our S&C Coach. Josh sadly left Norwich in January for a new role at a prestigious girl's school in Oxford. He has continued to provide S&C remotely and we will look to find a replacement for him for next season. It has been a strong season in terms of individual player improvement, and pleasingly this has been replicated in competition this season. I am particularly proud of Amaya Rastrick, Gamar Elk Heder and Jaime Wells who have all represented London Mavericks academies this season. As the year draws to a close, as always it has been emotional to say goodbye to some of the athletes who have been with us for up to 5 years.

Competition for the U13s and U15s has been inconsistent and is an area that we need to develop for the future to ensure that we continue moving forwards. I worked hard at the start of the season to book some match days in, but it has been tricky getting other counties to travel to us and commit to matches. Fortunately, the addition of the ERYL league has helped to provide a high-level of competition for our young athletes.

We would benefit from recruiting more coach's to support our programme and I would welcome any declarations of interested from keen parties.





Our relationship with England Netball continues to be a tricky one and they continue to demand a lot from us, with very little in return. Vladan Dragosavic, EN Pathway Manager, has now left and I am hopeful that a new appointment may help to improve the relationship between EN and County pathways.

Thank you to the NCNA committee, who continue to allow me autonomy to run the county pathway as I see fit. A particular thank you to Anna Bright, who has stepped down as Treasurer, but who was so helpful during her time on the committee.

Below are some pictures from our final competition of the year:



U13 Development competing at the Staffordshire County Tournament in May.



The U15 Red squad who narrowly missed out on a Cup semi-final place by 0.1 of a goal!



U13 Academy who finished 2nd in the Cup at the Staffordshire County Tournament.



The U15 Black squad finished their pool games undefeated and went on to win the Plate Final after 7 minutes of extra-time!





# 10. COACHING LEAD

Vacant post - no report.

## 11. PUBLICITY OFFICIER

Vacant post – no report

## 12. SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Vacant post – no report

### 13. RESOLUTION OFFICER

Vacant post – no report

### 14. BELONGINGS & INCLUSION OFFICER

Vacant post - no report.

# 15. **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** (Fliss Von Christian)

New to netball: 107 (59% target 180)

### Programme updates:

After a successful year of EN programme delivery, I'm delighted to have renewed the following Partnership Agreements for Walking Netball for 2025/2026:

- King's House Gardens, Thetford Monday 6.15pm-7.15pm
- City College, Norwich Monday 6-7pm
- Watton Sports Centre Tuesday 1:15pm-2:15pm
- Dereham Leisure Centre Thursday 11am-12pm
- Wymondham Leisure Centre Friday 6:15pm-7:15pm
- Lynn Grove Academy Saturday 10am-11am
- Lynnsport, King's Lynn Friday 10am-11am

...as well as the following at-risk Back to Netball session:

King's House Gardens, Thetford – Friday 7.30pm-8.30pm

We have some fantastic coaches hosting sessions - we're extremely lucky to have them on board representing EN programmes across Norfolk. I'm always on the lookout for anyone interested in becoming a host so we can offer more sessions throughout the county; if this is you, please get in touch so I can support you!

### Key achievements 2024-2025

- Successfully delivered a Walking Netball festival in April, welcoming 6 teams (55 participants) to the Wiggle&Giggle competition, prioritising player safety and fun, and awarding sustainable prizes to all.
- Developing relationship with the WNNL; ongoing ENgage guidance to support increasing county membership, supporting at committee meetings and at their brilliant inaugural tournament at Lynnsport in May
- Guidance and support with using ENgage for individual/team memberships, and schools payments enquiries





- Meetings with NCNA Chair, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Norwich Netball League, and at-risk clubs/teams
- Supporting both adult and Norwich Junior League tournaments
- Continuing to promote and expand Bee Netball across Norfolk through SGO/SSP connections, supporting Bee tournament at UEA in May through links with Jenny Day
- Ongoing support to set up a Bee club at Beeston Hall School in North Norfolk
- Continually building/strengthening relationships with leagues, clubs, players, coaches, umpires and volunteers across the county
- Liaising with County Chair re the new London Mavericks "Pass it On" initiative to deliver new netballs to clubs/teams in need
- Set up new Netball Now PA with SNNL for June
- Supporting new PA for summertime Netball Now in Norwich with Lorraine Nabarro
- Supporting North Norfolk WI group to launch their own WN session
- Gaining insight and understanding of the netball landscape within Norfolk; challenges and demands, strengths and experience available county-wide, and directly learning from the widely experienced EN East team, including NDOs, Ros and NDCCs.
- Facilities consultation support with WNNL and Max Associates re Lynnsport development opportunities
- Attended Greater Norwich Sports & Physical Activity NGB meeting to discuss partnership projects, facilities strategies, and to understand priorities across Greater Norwich.
- Development of new social netball sessions in Snettisham, W Norfolk; supporting organiser to undertake coaching qualifications and safeguarding to expand to junior provision in West Norfolk.

Following my ACL surgery in February, I am thrilled to finally be able to resume delivery of my Walking Netball sessions and to get out and about meeting people to discuss how best to develop netball within the county! Thank you all for your support during my ongoing recovery and I look forward to the next year.

## 16. JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVES (Barbara Rogers/Vicki Franklin-Brown)

The Junior League for this season ran from September to March. Matches took place on a Thursday night at the UEA Sportspark. As we were only allocated two hours a night on one court, it meant there were only two matches played per night. There were five age groups from under 11 to under 16 and there were six clubs involved.

Unfortunately Thetford were unable to participate because that is their training night. However, since the end of the league matches, I have explained to the Thetford coaches that it wouldn't be every week and so they might consider joining in next year. All clubs (except Beccles who only had one team in) had at least one of their teams gaining a winner or runners up slot, which was encouraging.

On Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup> May, we held our annual tournament, recently renamed the Joy Haycocks Memorial Tournament in memory of our dear friend, and once more we had a great turnout. There were 30 participating teams, involving about 270 players including two boys, from NU Attleborough, NU Norwich, Thoroughbreds, Trowse, Thetford and Cliff Park.

Everyone had a great time, the weather was kind to us and the game of netball won the day. Thanks to donations from Norfolk County Netball and the Norwich Senior League we were able to buy decent trophies and medals for the winners and runners up in both the league and tournament.

We also decided to do some fundraising on the day and chose to run a Tombola stall. Every team that entered was asked to provide at least three prizes and they all duly complied and as a result, we were able to make a very impressive £178. Not everything was smooth however.





especially leading up to the day, with some obstacles for us to overcome with the venue and its letting policies. This has lead us to feel we possibly need to look for an alternative venue for next year.

The Committee has worked hard to keep junior netball well placed on the sporting map and I thank my fellow members for all the hard work this year. We shall be holding our AGM in July - date and venue to be confirmed.

## 17. NORWICH REPRESENTATIVE (Vicky Askew)

Another great year of Netball in Norwich, but not without its challenges.

The winter league continues to be popular with 36 teams continuing in the UEA Indoor Winter league. Due to high demand we managed to secure Town Close School to be able to host an Indoor Feeder League. The Feeder League had six teams competing in it for the inaugural season. This league will then feed into the UEA Indoor League with automatic promotion and demotion. The winter leagues at both Open Academy and CVL at City Academy proved ever popular. The CVL was at capacity with 16 teams playing every week at Hellesdon High School, including three new teams.

The start of Summer 2025 brought some challenges with a lack of venue availability. With 45 teams entering the competitive league and 12 entering CVL, we have had to work hard to ensure all fixtures can be delivered. This was a real challenge to the committee and has made us think about the future structure of the Summer league. The lack of, and availability of qualified umpires is still an ongoing issue and one we are working hard to address soon.

This year has seen the introduction of the NNL newsletter which is distributed at the end of winter season and then again at the end of summer. This gives us another option to try to engage with our members directly and share some of the fantastic news stories that are happening for teams and individuals within our league.

A BIG THANK YOU to all involved in the Norwich Netball League, particularly those on the committee as it has been a tough year with new challenges to face.

Let's hope for a sun filled summer season!

# 18. NORTH NORFOLK REPRESENTATIVE (Sarah Feeney)

### Sept 24 to March 25

The league recommenced from in Sept with a league format. Each team played each other twice at two venues. Aylsham High School and Stalham High School. Once each team had completed all of their fixtures a knock out format was used: 1 played 8 / 2 played 7 / 3 played 6 / 4 played 5.

The winners of these games then played until there was a final. This year's finalist were Cromer and Lions with Cromer winning the games. The traditional format of the league finished

- 1. Lions
- 2. Venus
- 3. Cromer
- 4. Stars
- 5. Supers
- 6. Stalham
- 7. Planets
- 8. Nova (summer name Kiss My Pass)





### May and June

Six teams are taking part in this friendly non-competitive league. As above minus Stars and Supers. The teams have been split into two pools. Playing two games each in the pool. After the pool games first in each pool will play each other, second and then third.

	Players	
Venus	12	
Stars	12	
Planets	12	
Lions	12	
Cromer	12	
Super	12	
Stalham	12	
Nova	12	
Totals	96	

We have seen a decline in youth players. This was hugely supported by Aylsham junior section. There are less 16 to 18's playing or available at weekends. This is something we are working with the Aylsham and Cromer netball clubs.

Umpiring is now externally sourced, so teams are not responsible for providing one. This has supported additional teams joining the league and allowed for more consistency in umpiring across games.

Table are updated weekly and posted on the Spond app. Our code is LVIRO. Unfortunately, we do not take photograph's during the league to ensure that we meet safeguarding standards for all.

Eight teams are confirmed for the next season starting in September. We are looking to expand.

# 19. SOUTH NORFOLK REPRESENTATIVE (Gill Jennings)

SNNL League finished on the 31<sup>st</sup> March, after playing several re-arranged games due to the weather. We have six teams in the league, and played each other three times.

#### Teams are -

- Phoenix Netball Club
- Swifts
- Pink Arrows
- Diss
- Diss High School
- Thetford

All Games were played in very good spirts with a complete mix of experienced and young new players. The umpiring was managed with a little juggling but all games were covered. We continue to struggle with some teams not having their own umpire.





### LEAGUE RESULTS

SNNL - Winter 2024 - 2025			
Team	Points	Position	
Swifts	43	1	
Phoenix	41	2	
Thetford	28	3	
Pink Arrows	18	4	
DHS	15	5	
Diss	0	6	

Congratulations to Swifts on taking the title this year from Phoenix. It was well deserved.

# 20. EAST NORFOLK REPRESENTATIVE (Karen Oakley)

The winter and summer seasons ran smoothly with only a few disruptions in the winter with games having to be cancelled and re arranged due to weather conditions. These were rearranged, however some had to be played at Inspire in Lowestoft which only hold one court so sourcing umpires was a bit difficult.

We did see some teams struggling for players this year and in the Lowestoft area due to lack of venues there seem to be no youngsters from this area coming through especially from the state schools.

Because of the lack of venues in the area our games have to be played further afield. This means state school child struggles to get there.

Our AGM was held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Inspire in Lowestoft. All the committee, with one exception, agreed to stand for another year. Melanie Sanford, after 40 years being involved with Lowestoft, decided to retire from the game and the committee and the league thanked her for her hard work and dedication over the years.

Although everyone has decided to stay on the committee some have changed roles

- With a spot to fill JJ Coughtrey was voted in as Media secretary.
- Fixtures and umpiring secretaries Victoria Arnull, Amy Hutt and Ellie Kelf are now working closely together to ensure games are arranged and the umpiring is covered every week.
- Victoria Arnull has also taken on an extra role as Mentor secretary.

Listed below are the results from the summer/ winter 24 / 25 season Award presentations. Sharon presented the following division awards:

Summer League Winners – Eagles Summer League Runners Up - Luma Fair Play Summer – Abigail Cooper (Vintage)

Winter League Division 1 Winners – Robins Winter League Division 1 Runners Up – Eagles Fair Play Winter Division 1 – Holly Midwinter (Hawks)

Winter League Division 2 Winners – Ravens Winter League Division 2 Runners Up – Phoenix Fair Play Winter Division 2 – Martha Ash (Blossoms)





The Linda Crisp Award for services to officiating was presented by Sammy Harwood, Linda's daughter, and Wendy Moore, Linda's sister. The recipient was Keelie Wincup.

The Lyn Elvin Award for services to the league was presented by Sharon Boyd. The recipient was Victoria Arnull.

# 21. WEST NORFOLK REPRESENTATIVE (Linda Rumbold/Jo Walton)

WNNL has had a great year! At last, something positive, encouraging and enduring to report.

The year started off in the same vein with very poor facilities at the only venue with three courts we have been able to find in years. We had become used to playing with no lines in places, a surface that doesn't drain and a couple of flood lights not working. The players and umpires are to be commended for coping in such conditions! Then there was the weather. We had to reorganise a lot of evenings because the courts were flooded and it was too dangerous to play. Despite the above, netball was enjoyed as always and there have been some very competitive games. A testament to our wonderful sport, the teams that play at WNNL and all its officials.

Like most leagues, I suspect, getting enough umpires to cover games is a challenge. It's difficult to drum up the enthusiasm to get players to take up umpiring and then to get the IOA courses. We are grateful to all those that take up the challenge as well as to those who are involved in the organisation of umpiring at league and county levels.

Towards the end of the winter league we were seriously wondering how we could survive after the summer season. We have been in existence for 30 years and the last thing we wanted to do was throw in the towel. Then, thanks to the fortuitous intervention at Lynn Sport by some committee members, our fortune changed. Within a few weeks, by the beginning of the summer league, Lynn Sport had marked up three courts on a good surface with a lot of space for spectators and on-site parking.

An inaugural tournament was organised in order to celebrate and promote netball. There were none teams including one from Norwich and what a marvellous day it was. The sun even shone (almost too much, dare I say?). I think as Chair, it is appropriate in this report for me to thank everyone who was involved: the organisers, the sponsors, Lynn Sport who let us have the facility free for the day, the umpires and of course the players. Further, a special thanks from everyone at WNNL to NCNA for supporting us financially to get new equipment and to Fliss, the NDO, and Sophie who came to the tournament. Your presence was very much appreciated.

We currently have 12 teams in two divisions of six, but we are hoping that publicity will improve on that number. We can now look forward to a future where we can provide netball for as long as anyone wants to play.