



Blue Jays AGM 12th July 2022 at 5 Rivers

Present: Andy Thorndike, Val Dolan, Babs Yeates, Beth Head, Sarah Pennells, Ellie Rackham, Deb Jackson, Cath Barrett, Viki Ford, Jemima Hill, Sam Shipsey, Vicky Wilde.

Apologies: Dan Winters, Catherine Sheth, Rowena Staples, Amy Oke, Sam Middleton

Matters Arising: None

Chair's Report: See attached

Secretary's Report: See attached

Treasurer's Report: See attached

Junior league fees discussed and decided to keep the same. Engage fees have increased.

Amendments: None

Election of Officers:

Chair – Val Dolan

Vice Chair – Cath Barrett

Secretary – Andy Thorndike

Treasurer – Val Dolan

Safeguarding/ Welfare Officer – Deb Jackson

Covid 19 Officer – Deb Jackson

Publicity and Welfare Officer – Beth Head

Kit and Equipment Officer – Phoebe Swaine

Desk Registrar – Sam Middleton

Salisbury League Rep – **remains vacant**. A description of the role will be sent out soon

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please volunteer if you can,

A.O.B.:

Discussion of new kit and equipment needed – Val to organise. Beth suggested that we provide new Bee players with a free training top to encourage club and team spirit from the start. Second hand kit donations to be organised – small discount on new kit if old is handed in.

Blue Jays N C Chairs Report 2021-22

It was lovely to be back after the pandemic and have a full season of netball, the numbers of members in the club have been very encouraging, in January we had to start a waiting list for certain groups.

We welcomed Andy, Sam and Phoebe to the club's committee and Ellie and Sarah to the coaching team. Deb and Victoria also helped with coaching sessions with the ladies group.

Andy as our new secretary has done a fantastic job and has made some important changes, introducing google forms and a team app called 'Heja' which is used to manage teams with scheduled match dates and chat group etc., this must be used by all players and coaches in the coming season as Andy has spent too much of her time organising teams which is not her job.

Sam has organised the registration desk and we introduced a credit card machine which helps members pay their training, match and kit fees if they don't want to use the internet.

Phoebe took over as Kit Officer and has made a few changes with sweat tops which we will hopefully be up and running by September, thanks Phoebe

Babs continues to support the coaches on club night and helps with the development of new umpires, we need more volunteers to come forward to train up as we cannot enter league without having an umpire for each team.

We entered three teams in the Salisbury winter league this season, two ladies and one U16's team. The coaches decided this year to divide the ladies' teams into two equal teams rather than an A & B teams and chosen on ability, in my view I feel this led to some frustration with the players, this is something we must look at for next season. The U16's had a good winter season playing against adults for the first time, they gained valuable experience.

The Adult Winter League results:

Blue Jays Yellow - winners Div 2

Blue Jays Youth - R/ups – Div 2

Blue Jays Blue - 3rd Div 2

Well Done

We entered three teams into the Salisbury Junior League, this was played at Sarum Academy on Sunday mornings once or twice a month. We had an U11's Bees team which Beth looked after, a U13's team which Ellie and Sarah managed and lastly a U15's team which was managed by Viki Ford, Gabby's mum, thanks for all your hard work, also thanks to the umpires who gave up their Sundays mornings on match days.

Junior Winter League Results:

Bee's 4th in their group

U13's R/ups

U15's Winners

Well Done to all players.

Two girls from the U15's team were selected for the County U16 development group, well done to Millie Cowley and Sherise Henry. Libby Barrett has just qualified with Dreams team (Southampton) in regionals div 2.

Jemima Hill and Grace Harrison are working towards an umpiring qualification, good luck to them.

Thanks to Gabby for helping Beth with the Bee's netballers, this is included in her DOE.

We held two parents' evenings where Mums, Dads and other family members could join in with the training sessions, there was a very good turn out and everyone had a lovely time. We organised tickets to watch Team Bath play Saracens Mavericks, Team Bath won by one point 50-49 it was a very exciting match with great skills, it gives our girls something to aspire to.

We held two juniors' tournaments one in April and one in May, both were very well attended, with 68 teams in total, age groups from U10 to U16, both events were very successful, and we had lovely comments from visiting teams saying how much they enjoyed it. Sadly, none of our teams won but, the standard was very high, and our girls now know the level they must achieve to compete with these clubs.

Many thanks to all the volunteers on the day and to those who make cakes and donated raffle prizes.

We have been offered an hour on a Tuesday evening one court from 6-7pm so hopefully the Bee's netball (years 4,5 & 6) will use this hour, this will mean we can take more girls in the other group, this is yet to be decided.

We finished our club nights with a fun versatility tournament and then awarded trophies for the season.

Fun tournament

results: Bee - Amy

U12 - Libby

U14 - Isla

U16 - Libby

B Ladies -

Beth

Coaches'

Players Bee -

Jenneil U12 -

Olivia

U14 - Isla

U16 - Annabel

Ladies - not

awarded

Players' Player - Winter League

Ladies A - Debs Jackson

Ladies B - Amy Oke

Youth - Libby Barrett

Coaches' Players - Winter

League Ladies A and B - not

handed out Youth – Gabby Ford

Junior League Coaches Players

Bee - Natalie

U13 - Kelly

U15 - Libby Barrett

The Summer league is still in progress, we have entered one lady's team and one youth team, I am very disappointed the lack of commitment of some players, we have cancelled a few matches and played friendlies with opponents rather than them have a match to play.

This is a bad reflection on the club and not fair on the league organisers who put in a lot of work and for the other teams in the league.

Next season Winter or Summer, we will not enter any teams into league without first having players signed up online and having paid their match fees and an umpire per team.

We are looking for another a coach to start in September, we have advertised this post and hopefully will get some response, but if there are any members or parents who would like to train up for coaching or umpiring, we will fully support them, also if anyone wants to join our committee you would be very welcome.

The closing date to enter teams into the senior and junior league's is earlier this year,

therefore you will need to sign up online on our web site and pay by the end of July 2022.

Lastly, I would like to finish by thanking all our volunteers, the club could not run without them, they give up their time each week to support and encourage netball in our club.

A big thank you to everyone.

Secretary's Report - Andy Thorndike

- Thank you for welcoming me into the club. I ended up taking this role on accidentally, initially working with Sarah Robinson to share the workload, but it's ended up being something that I've invested time in which has been enjoyable, rewarding and, at times, frustrating.
- The start of the season was pretty tricky as the club was disorganised after coming back from Covid, and we had early deadlines for Ladies' and Junior League. There were problems with emails not being received, so myself and Sarah asked all members to save the bjncsecretary@outlook.com email to their contacts and I then verified all email addresses.
- There is still an issue with members ignoring or not replying to emails, which is a big cause of frustration and has impacted the running of the club. Chasing up individuals consumes additional time that would be better spent elsewhere.
- On a more positive note, the introduction of Google Forms has been effective and responses have been good, particularly regarding returning to netball in September, where only a handful of players have failed to respond.
- To support league teams, I introduced the Heja team app. This worked well with junior teams, particularly Bees, where it provided quick and easy communication between myself, Beth and parents/players. Going forward, this app needs to be embraced by all players and coaches, with coaches posting match reports etc on the app. Ideally, I would like to step back from administrating the app for each team.

- Ladies' and Junior winter leagues were successful, with the exception of the U15s team where we had repeated issues with last minute cancellations and/or no-shows on the day. Viki Ford worked hard to keep the team going, so thanks are due to her and to the U13 players who often stepped up to fill in when numbers were lacking.
- Ladies' summer league has proved difficult, particularly with regards to the Youth team, where lack of commitment has caused repeated problems, resulting in the team playing with only 5 players at times and match cancellations at very short notice. We have had complaints from the league about this, so it needs addressing.
- The junior tournaments were a big success, providing lots of game time for our players and raising money for the club. I received lots of positive messages from clubs who attended both events.
- Looking ahead to September, we have good numbers in all age groups, including ladies, and we have also invited new players from our waiting list to join. There is a lot of interest in junior and ladies' leagues, but we need to organise umpires and coaching before we can commit to entering teams.
- Finally, thanks to all the committee members, coaches and other volunteers for giving up their time to run and support the club. With more commitment, communication and engagement from other club members, we can make the club even better!

Treasurers Report 2021-22

July 2022

This being my first full year as treasurer it has run quite smoothly, most members paying on time, so I did not have to chase many members.

We introduced the Sumup credit card reader in September which has worked well and being used a great deal. Members now have a choice of online payments and paying at the desk, we would still prefer not to take cash were possible. I would still like members to sign up and pay for their league fees online on our web site as there is a paper form of registration.

We have been informed by Five Rivers that their prices are not going up for the coming season, therefore we will keep the session fee prices the same as last year.

We have not heard anything from the Salisbury league about their costs, but I feel we can keep those prices the same also.

The two tournaments we held earlier this year brought in a good profit and this help us keep the prices down and still subsidized the kit and match fees etc.

As we all know the cost of living is going up day on day, therefore if there are any unusual hardship with any members please come and talk to me and I will try and sort something out.

To finish I would like to thank Andy and Sam for all their help this season it has helped me a lot.

Val

Blue Jays Netball Club Accounts 2021-22

Date		Paid In	Paid Out	diff	Bank
1.7.2021	Balance B/F Nat West				5948.72
	Bath Trip 2022	378.00	436.75	(58.75)	
	Coaches' expenses		192.64		
	Equipment		250.48		
	Insurance		119.98		
	Kit	1512.50	2426.14	(913.64)	
	SDNL Winter & Summer league & Umpiring	1395.00	2101.94	(813.06)	
	Junior League	660.00	363.00	297.00	
	Sum Up Fees		77.76		
	PayPal Fees		201.17		
	Sessions Fees	6975.50	4136.96	2838.61	
	Tournaments April /May	3257.50	2052.25	1205.25	
	Gifts / Prizes – Club events		181.77		
	Zoom - refund	137.81	143.88	6.07	
	Web Site		277.50		
	Totals	14357.08	12962.15		1394.93
	Balance as at 30 th June 2021				7343.65
	Profit for year				1394.93

	Petty Cash	
	Balance at 30 th June 2022	162.12

	Equipment & Stock	?
	as at 30 th June 2022	

There is only come outstanding invoice which is for SDNL Summer League Match Fees.

Pre-meeting discussion

Coaching

Court time will be as follows:

- 6-7pm Bee netball (Y4, 5, 6)
- 7-8pm U12 (Y7) and U13/14 (Y8&9)
- 8-9pm U15/16/18 (Y10-13) and ladies

Coaches will be as follows:

- Bee netball – Beth
- U12 – Beth
- U13/14 - Ellie and Sarah
- U15/16 - Ellie
- U18/Ladies - Sarah
- Val will continue to support with coaching

We have so far been unable to secure a coach for the ladies. Sarah has agreed to take on the ladies coaching subject to suitable turn out and commitment. This will give the ladies one single person in charge, as it was felt that last season there were too many people (although this was only due to people stepping up to support the club, and is not a criticism of the efforts made to keep the ladies sessions running.)

With both Sarah and Ellie coaching in the 8-9 sessions, they will be unable to train themselves, so this will be kept under review.

Sarah is keen to do her Level 2 coaching qualification.

Beth, Sarah and Ellie will be meeting before the start of the season to plan coaching sessions, with possible subsequent input from Val and Babs. It was discussed that more structure and targets are needed in the sessions but coaches were unkeen to reintroduce an explicit skill testing element to training, as this can be demoralising for players and 'feel a bit too much like school'. Such skills would be better observed in the background during training and match play to identify where targets have been met.

One of the early training sessions will involve setting standards for training and matches (no phones, no jewellery etc) and going over match rules and codes of conduct.

For junior league, coaches will also play a management role, using the Heja app to communicate with parents and players (where age appropriate). This worked really well for Beth and the Bees last season, so we will build on that success.

Wiltshire Trials for U13 and U15 players are the weekend of 10th/11th September at Dorcan School near Swindon. Coaches will select players to be put forward and Andy will be in touch with those players' parents/carers.

It was agreed that the return to training last season was not ideal, with people unsure of their roles and responsibilities. We are in a better position entering this season with regards to coaching and team management.

Umpiring

Babs will continue to support new and aspiring umpires during training sessions. Dan will attend some sessions to help. There is further interest from U16 players, and younger players will be encouraged to try umpiring. The Into Umpiring course can be taken from age 13 (according to England Netball) and needs to be looked into further.

<https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/course/into-officiating-course/>

We can't enter teams in Ladies league without sufficient umpires. Amy Oke has volunteered to help with this.

Depending on the number of teams in Junior league, we should be ok for umpires and will encourage new U16/18 umpires to support, as this would provide valuable experience.

Teams

All U18 teams must have parents on Heja as well as players, as parent support and involvement is needed.

Youth team and ladies teams will set up a way of communicating between them, to avoid unnecessary match cancellation, possibly Sarah/Ellie to join youth team Heja.

Players need to commit to matches once the dates are on Heja, and by Sunday evening before match day at the latest. For junior league, commitment must be before training on the Tuesday before a match.

New Heja groups will be created once we have teams organised.

Players wishing to play league matches must be committed to playing all, or the vast majority of, matches. Junior league has only 8 match days, with 2 matches on each day,

and provisional dates will be sent out soon. Please check the dates and consider availability carefully before signing up!

Junior league is aimed at players who don't play elsewhere, therefore those who play in

the ladies league will not be considered for junior league unless we are low on numbers.

Before teams are entered into leagues, players must be signed up on Engage and have paid league fees. Andy will have laptop at training to facilitate with Engage. Individual players will not be chased up, so may be unable to play if not signed and paid up before the deadlines.

If we have too many players in an age group, a squad of 10 will be selected. Fees will be returned for those not selected.

Andy will send out detailed junior league information soon.

Communication in General

Committee WhatsApp messages to be kept to relevant chats, eg coaches chat, whole committee chat etc. to avoid messages being missed.

Emails send out by Andy will also be posted on the ladies' group chat.

Other items

We need to review our policies, such as GDPR, safeguarding, emergency medical care etc, and ensure all who need to have an appropriate DBS. Those who require a DBS can claim the cost back from the club. Deb to look into Safeguarding policy, Andy to look into GDPR.

