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| **Minutes of the : North East Regional Management Board Meeting** |
| Date/Time | 31/08/2023 | Location | Zoom |
| **Attendees** | **Initials** | **Position** |
| Rachel Cassidy | RC | Competition Lead |
| Michelle Cowan | MC | Treasurer |
| Jade Featherstone | JF | Regional Officer |
| Jo MacLeod |  JM | Chair |
| Grace Towler | GT | Vice Chair |
| Jill Sapsford | JS | Partnerships and Delivery Manager |

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| **Apologies** | **Initials** | **Reason** |  | **Circulation List** |
| Gemma Sandberg | GS | Holiday |  | Attendees 8 |
| Iain Richardson | IR | Officiating Lead (joined late) |  |  |
| Liz Barton-Jones | LBJ | Events Lead  |  |  |

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| 1. **Welcome and Apologies, and chair and vice chair updates**
2. England Netball Updates
3. Competition
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| **Welcome and Apologies*** 1. JM received apologies from GS and IR.

**Regional Chair Updates*** 1. JM received regional chairs date meetings so we are going to try plan in the RMB dates around this to provide more structure.
	2. Regional chairs really working together, lots of support coming from Kelly and Imo at England Netball.
	3. Regional chairs have asked questions regarding the deficit England Netball currently have and also around the professionalisation of the league. JM to feedback.

**Vice chair updates*** Had recent county chairs meeting, only T&W and Northumberland in attendance.

Priorities:* T&W priority is schools. They are not sure how this is going to look yet. They are aware the NDO can’t do that, so looking into more options.
* T&W- Query regarding hardship fund so looking into this.
* T&W- coaching CPD and engagement. Different clubs/counties hosting workshops, done this before but need to look at how to get people there.
* T&W- Improving the officiating within the county as well as getting more involved.
* NCNA- Facilities
* NCNA- retention and recruitment of officials, and those of a good standard
* NCNA- retention and recruitment of coaches, earlier advertisement of coaching workshops
* NCNA- recruitment of volunteers
* NCNA- Sessions like Chelsea Pitman are great, but more opportunities for coaches would be good.
* Concerns:
* T&W- Each county to host an U17/U19 performance group. GT expresses T&W concerns about this as it has come across as compulsory but starts next month and not aware of what needs to be taking place.
* T&W- Thinks there needs to be a SLA between County and Regional boards.
* NCNA- concerns about if they miss a performance TSG meeting, they get no feedback or minutes.
* T&W- Transparency, Governance and Communication concerns. Really happy that TSGs have started up again but need to look into how they are being run, they need minutes and to have their governance looked at.

 * JM- TSGs are the decision makers as there is a representative from each county on the TSGs
* Need to start looking at how performance could separate to be their own entity, we as the RMB would still have a management over it.
* Governance we need to work on as a collective, need to have a revisit of the constitution, both from the RMB and county chairs- ready for next AGM
* CAPS- no update at the moment, NDOs are contacting clubs and counties in light of the new membership to do a governance health check with them to give necessary support/ as a temporary support. JS to check in with NDOs to ensure this is happening.

2.0 England Netball Updates* 2 local media opportunities on the back of NWC.
* T&W and ND to be receiving some paid advertising from England Netball due to them being in the top 15 of counties where netball is taking place, off the back of NWC.
* Membership fully starts tomorrow. EN NE team not received many queries regarding membership this year.
* Actions- EN NE team, a social media post around if you have any problems with the memberships who to contact.
* Bee netball- Consett Steelers official Bee club, potential Bee pilot coming to the NE.

3.0 Competition* There have been rule changes within competition, these have been agreed within the TSG whatsapp group as RC struggling to get the competition TSG together.
* This has been flagged as a concern by T&W with rule changes being voted on over whatsapp. Agreement that in future go with a date that majority of the county leads can do.
* County leads are the representation in the county, leads do not need to go back to the county meeting to get an answer as they should be speaking on behalf of the county board.
* These rule changes have also come from meetings with other regional competition leads. Therefore, more changes are likely to come next year.
* Junior entry tournaments- 12 for U14, 11 for U16. October 8th and October 22nd.
* Conversation going to be taking place with the TSG regarding removing the national qualifying tournament for juniors.
* Facilities- Sport Central cannot book as far in advance as we need them for but is accommodating and supporting. Gateshead stadium we can get in, but they are very expensive now.
* Need to do some work around facilities, reducing facility costs. Can we create partnerships with some facilities, to get guaranteed court time/ agreed costs.
* Opening School activity fund- grants/funding schools can apply for. Might help us get access to schools.

Officiating Report**Officiating Update England Netball Updates / Recaps*** A/B Written Paper i. Now back to regular cycle - Oct, Feb, Jun ii. Kim Pearson / Jo Black passed in June 23 a.
* Premier League umpires must complete online EN conscious inclusion training (prior to 10-Sept 23). Not sure if this is to be rolled down further.
* Fitness tests to be formally reintroduced by EN (although NE have always retained fitness testing) i. NSL / NPL - 9.1 beep or 15.1 Yo-yo ii. Prem - 8.1 beep iii. NERL Div 1 - 6.1 beep iv. NERL Div 2 - 5.1 beep v. NEJRL - No requirement c.

**Regional Updates** * Regional / County Conversion Tracker Review (accurate Jul-23)
* Request for COL's to review tracker spreadsheet and update where necessary for learners in their respective counties.
* Qualified Umpires (according to Engage) A Award - 3 (3 active + BAT & EL) B Award - 38 (23 active) C Award - 193 INTO - 72 CTO - 8
* Course Attendance B Award - 16 C Award - 21 (with further 16 part attended) INTO - 158 (with further 4 part attended, 3 pending and 3 registered) iii. iv. BAT supporting NERL for upcoming season (Umpiring, mentoring / assessing)

**Mentoring / Assessing Mentoring*** Regional mentoring working really well with a strong team (LW / LBJ / BAT / LT / IKR) 2)
* Formal mentoring process with verbal & written feedback (written feedback stored on OTSG drive - needs to be moved to RMB drive)

Assessments * 1) Nat / Alyssa / Steven / Angela all passed B award last NERL season ii. Assessing NE are now back to being independent for assessments (IKR / LW\* / DM), with IKR able to be lead assessment (A award requirement). We also continue to get support from KB and BAT. \* Still awaiting confirmation from EN that LW is signed-off as a B assessor after shadowing KB.
* I have a list of our NE assessors from EN as there is no way to find this out on Engage. Trainees are in brackets. NCNA - Iain Richardson (Vicky Atkinson) T&W - Helen Emmerson, Liz Wiz, Lynn Morrison, Liz Barton-Jones ND - Jackie Padley (Bex Wilson) SD&C - Marie Blair, Julie Haley, Angela Lillystone, Di Mercer (Anne Rose) 2) 3) NCNA - Vicky Atkinson needs 1 further assessment to be signed off as C award assessor. 4) SD&C - Anne Rose needs 1 further assessment to be signed off as C award assessor. 5) ND - Bex Wilson sign-off by Jackie Padley apparently rejected by EN ?

**Supervisory Assessors** * 1) This is currently a grey area and I’m awaiting feedback from EN on how to get signed off as a Supervisory Assessor.
* 2) Helen Emmerson is the only active supervisory assessor I’m aware of.

**EN Assessor Standardisation Event*** various zoom meetings in September.

**Regional Umpire Progression Talent Identified Umpires** * 1) TIDB - Nat McKenna, Beccy Sidney-Wilmot 2) TIDC - 6 umpires being actively mentored TIDC (Future) - 9 umpires progressing within counties to be brought to Regional TIDC Identification
* i) Responsibility of COLs to determine whether umpires are ready for regional.
* ii) Attendance of B award course does not guarantee progression to NERL mentoring.

Planned Assessments * 1) Intention to test Kim Pearson / Ceri Glennie before XMas.
* 2) Jolene / CJH likely to follow soon after.

**Regional Representation within EN** * i. NE now has 3 x A Awards actively umpiring Premier League and NPL (with selected opportunities available for TIDBs).
* Sophia Wilson being actively mentored towards NSL.

**Recent Opportunities** * 1) National Schools - SW/AR
* U14 Nationals - SW/IKR/AR
* NPL Showcase - IKR/SW/AR (NPL) + Jade/Nat/Rachel/Ceri (curtain raisers)
* Prem playoffs - SW 5) NPL Tournament (27-30 July) - SW/IKR

**Officiating SWOT Analysis Review** * Original version was produced early 2021 - recently updated and great to see previous weaknesses / threats moving to strengths / opportunities. e. Regional Umpire Management Platform Intention to continue to use an Umpire Management Platform (WhosTheUmpire.com) in the coming season for the allocation of umpires in the regional leagues.

2. Rules Update - Reminder that the INF Rule book now available as an app (IOS app store / Google Play StorePerformance Report- to be sent as GS not in attendance Finance Report * Performance numbers are still not adding up. Really important for MC and JM to get a meeting in with LK and GS.
* A coach from a previous year hadn’t submitted time sheets and came to us this year for payment, this became an issue and therefore a large payment had to come out of the budget.
* Lack of transparency around when funds from EN are coming in.
* Want to set up a separate account for performance. Currently not enough money for the pathway.
* Kit and Fees are a big leakage so need to work together on this.
* We cover costs of school and club nationals.
* We subsidised the ONE awards a lot this year.
* Eventbrite is something which MC has suggested using last year.
* Couldn’t do the ONE awards event much cheaper, so if we need to spend less money on that event, the format of the event may need to change.
* For next year: adding a small fee onto the junior affiliation, the juniors get a lot from us as a region but currently we don’t charge them anything as a region. Could add £1 on to the affiliation for juniors.
* Competition continues to cover all the costs.
* JM- To organise a meeting with Gemma and Leah.
* JM- To organise a meeting with Vladan regarding better ways of working. JS to look internally with Vladan to see what can be done. Need to look at the employment contract for the FPL role, there is an SLA in place, but need to look and see if this is following the correct governance.
* Sponsors- Looking at sponsorship packages in advance.

North East Planning Priorities * RMB need to get the 2 year priorities to England Netball.
* What is our business as usual and where are we looking to go to next
* JM to send the NE plan to everyone and put it on the drive
* ALL- start to think about your priorities and what changes you wish to make, by end of September

North East AGM* Need agenda
* Need external auditor for the accounts
* This then all gets shared on our website
* Approve the minutes

North East Working as ONE feedback* Really great to have everyone in the same room
* Good team building opportunities
* Some counties need more support than others
* Interim check ins might be worth while for some counties, whether in person or virtual
* Meet again end of November/ mid-December
* Action- Jade to send out Regional calendar

National events* JM to attend national AGM on behalf of the RMB
* Remind everyone that it is virtual, meaning voting is virtual also
* National ONE awards- all winners are attending, RMB are covering cost of the cost of the winners tickets (£40 a head)

AOB* National long service awards- JM to set up a working group to submit who should be getting put forward for national long service awards
* Netballher- do EN have anything we can send to schools e.g. posters/leaflets regarding netballher
* RMB netball her representative- need one on the board

Meeting close 21:26 |
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