

December 2009



Netball East Newsletter



A proud night for the East Region at the England Netball National Golden Globe Awards

Netball East would like to give Sophie Pike extended congratulations in receiving the National Officials Golden Globe Award at this year's celebration. Sophie is a B Award Umpire, an Umpire Tutor and B Award Tester, and is Mentor Accredited. She dedicates her time to developing Umpires in Norfolk and since 2006, spends four nights a week Mentoring, Testing and supporting Umpires. She is Umpire Coordinator for the East's Regional League, dealing with 54 Umpires, Umpiring Secretary for the North Norfolk League, and is a member of the Norfolk County Netball Association, and both the East's Umpiring and Competition Technical Support Groups. Sophie set up Mentoring before the Official Mentoring scheme was implemented and she now has 11 Mentors, with 62 Umpires undergoing mentoring. She is known for her accuracy and commitment and has been vital in the development of Officiating in the Region. With huge thanks from us all Sophie!

Finally, Long Service Awards were given to seven East Members:

Jean Jones
John Pitts
June Snellin
Lynn Jackson
Margaret Jackson
Maureen Lee
Sheelagh Redpath

Congratulations to all who were recognised at this terrific event!

Mavericks player and England co-captain Karen Atkinson was also entered into the England Netball Hall of Fame at the National Golden Globes Awards and Maggie Jackson, Mavericks Head Coach was given her Honorary Life Membership.



We are delighted to announce that the region now has a full compliment of Netball Development Officers (one in each county)...

Netball Development Officer – Bedfordshire - Alison Brightman 07884 491516
alison.brightman@englandnetball.co.uk
Netball Development Officer – Cambridgeshire - Kim Lumley 07595 863974
kim.lumley@englandnetball.co.uk
Netball Development Officer – Essex - Rebecca Jones 07545 924991
rebecca.jones@englandnetball.co.uk
Netball Development Officer – Hertfordshire - Emma Moule 07525 703153
emma.moule@englandnetball.co.uk
Netball Development Officer – Norfolk/Suffolk - Donna Sullivan 07540 126597
donna.sullivan@englandnetball.co.uk

Netball East is also pleased to introduce their new Regional Manager, Keely Glenister who joined the team in October from the Bedfordshire and Luton County Sports Partnership. Keely is a netball player, coach, umpire and TSG member, and has settled in well to her new role. If you wish to contact Keely her email address is keely.glenister@englandnetball.co.uk.

New Members Sought for East Communications and Marketing Technical Support Group!

If netball is your passion and you want to make changes for the future of the game, help clubs and individuals in the East Region improve their marketing, communications and sponsorship then we would like to hear from you! We are inviting new members to join the existing Netball East Marketing and Communications Technical Support Group. If you have expertise in this area, or feel that you could offer support to the group please contact Linda Swain, C&M TSG Chair on lmaswain@aol.com.

Passing of Wendy Hale 1965 - 2009

It is with immense sadness that we inform you of Wendy Hale's passing on Monday 2nd November aged just 44 years. Wendy leaves behind her partner Steve and children Christie, Evie and Jamie. Wendy was a great netball player and represented New Cambell, East Essex, East Region and England. Wendy ran coaching clinics, coached junior clubs and taught in Essex and therefore encouraged so many of her athletes to love the game of netball. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

Talent ID and Selection Workshops

England Netball's new Talent ID and Selection Workshops are now up and running, replacing the old Performance Standard Workshops. The aim of the workshop is to provide teachers and club coaches with the knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of a talented player in order to nominate athletes to an appropriate level within the County Excel pathway.

Teachers/Coaches will leave the workshop with an understanding of:

- The England Netball Excel Programmes and Structures.
- The characteristics of a talented athlete.
- Processes for Talent Identification and Selection
- Selection methods and considerations
- Support available

This is a certificated course and all nominations for Academies will need to come via attendees of the Talent Identification and Selection Workshop or the Scouting Workshop. For more information, contact the East Regional Office on 01487 842121.

CAPS Update!

Congratulations to the following clubs who have recently received or renewed their CAPS and Clubmark accreditation:

Gold - Hawks

Silver - Cranfield, Belton Ladies, Stevenage Storm, Leighton Buzzard

Bronze - Ipswich Civil Service

Back to Netball

The Back to Netball project is progressing well nationally, with over 20 sessions now run and running throughout the East. 600 women have come Back to Netball as a result, with many going on to join local clubs, and some even forming their own! Coaches are still required to help run these sessions. These are paid coaching opportunities, so if you are Level 2 qualified (or currently undertaking your Level 2 qualification) and would be interested in coaching Back to Netball, please contact Teresa on 07834 500189 or e-mail teresaw@englandnetball.co.uk.

Brand new sessions are starting in January, so tell all your friends! Visit www.netballeast.org.uk for more information.

Norfolk based International Umpire Gary Burgess took time out of his busy job as an Assistant Head Teacher to answer a few questions for Netball East on life at the top of the Officiating Ladder...

What do your pupils think of you becoming a top Umpire and travelling the world?

The students are always very supportive, and with the television coverage now I always get the 'I saw you on TV last night Sir' the next day!

Did you enjoy your involvement in the World Series?

The World Series really lived up to what I believe everyone was expecting, and I think that next year's event will be even better. I really enjoyed being involved, and being awarded the final to umpire was great, considering the calibre of my umpiring colleagues.

What do you think of the Fast Net rules?

The speed and flow of the game really suits my umpiring style. I think the use of rolling substitutions adds to the speed, and how great to participate in the game where there are no questionable stoppages for injury.

In your last interview you said you were looking forward to 'taking an active role within Norfolk'. What can Norfolk's netballers expect from you?

I have recently been co-opted onto the Norfolk County Committee as the Chair and I am looking forward to continuing the extensive work Phil Crosthwaite has become renowned for, as he steps down. From an umpiring perspective, I'm beginning to mentor some of the senior Umpires progressing towards their B and A awards.

How do you feel being man in a women's world?

This really has to be the most asked question that I get in an interview. The great thing is, England Netball is a dynamic and forward thinking governing body and being a 'man in a women's world' has never been an issue.

Have you a prediction for the forthcoming Superleague season?

The great thing about the Superleague this year is that the England girls have made the decision to play for different franchises - This will pay dividends when they move into the final training phase for the Commonwealth Games. It also mixes things up for the spectators and I believe the competition is now wide open.... but if I had to put money on it; Mavericks, Surrey Storm or Team Bath, on an each way bet!!!!

In the next Co-operative International Netball Series, do you think England can beat Australia?

For a long time, England v Australia games have been won before the players have even set foot on the court. The psychological strength that Australia possess from their Coach Norma Plummer and Captain Sharelle McMahon, makes them a formidable opposition. After spending the summer talking to England Head Coach Sue Hawkins (on a sun lounger in the Cook Islands!) and Kendra Slawinski (Assistant England Coach), it's clear the belief is there from a coaching point of view in the England Camp - this belief is all the England players need to develop now to be a real threat.

How do you feel that England are progressing with achieving Number 1 ranking in the World?

I think with wins over New Zealand and close defeats to Australia means they are moving in the right direction. As mentioned before, it's now all a case of believing they can do it!

What is the next match you will umpire?

Domestically the Super League returns on the 10th December and I will be umpiring the 'live' TV match between Team Bath vs Northern Thunder. On an International level I have been selected to umpire the Scotland vs Australia Test Series in Glasgow which takes place in February.

What will you be doing in preparation for these games?

I think with Christmas between now and then, I'll be trying to maintain a good base level of fitness to ensure there's not a huge amount to do when it all gets going again after New Year. 2010 has the potential to be a very busy year so I hope to stay as fit and as injury free as possible!

A big thank you to Gary for taking the time out to answer our questions and with lots of luck from all at Netball East for your future ventures within Norfolk and across the Umpiring circuit!



Maverick's are excited to welcome long standing Mavericks and international stars such as Karen Atkinson, Louisa Brownfield and Naida Hutchinson as well as a range of ex-internationals including Naomi Stenhouse and Amanda Newton as part of their 2009/10 squad.

There are also a host of young England Excel players throughout both the senior and youth squads. With an awesome coaching team consisting of Maggie Jackson as Head Coach, Karen Atkinson and Amanda Newton as Player Assistant Coaches and Jo Munnion as Technical Coach, and Sam Bird, Tracey Pennell and Maggie Tetsola leading the youth squad, the season is bound to be an exciting one for the East's Superleague team.

Tickets are available for matches at www.mavericksnetball.co.uk



Mavericks, are delighted to announce their new sponsorship deal with the University of Hertfordshire. Mavericks' chair, Gloria Keech, said: "An alliance with the University of Hertfordshire and partners will enable us to raise the profile of netball within the local community as well as across the rest of the East Region and will give the opportunity to maintain a successful team and develop further talented athletes."

Mavericks have played all home games and trained in Hertfordshire since their formation as the East Region franchise five years ago. Based at the University of Hertfordshire's Sports Village, recognised nationally as a provider of excellent sports facilities and services, they have enjoyed great support from the many netball fans who have appreciated the success, quality and style of Mavericks play. Commenting on the sponsorship deal, Nick Brooking, University Director of Sport said: "We have informally supported Mavericks since they began and have now agreed to formalise our support. We aim to ensure Mavericks have the base of resource needed to continue their excellent work in not only maintaining a very successful team but also in developing a sustainable organisation and brand.



In honour of Maggie!



We are delighted that one of the East's best known personalities, Maggie Jackson, has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to Netball by the University of Hertfordshire. As you read earlier, Maggie picked up an Honorary Life Membership of England Netball at the 2009 Golden Globe Awards, but has also now been awarded an Honorary Degree by the University of Hertfordshire for her contribution to Coach Education and coaching.

A ceremony was held at St Albans Cathedral during which Maggie and another recipient, Jean Pickering (wife of the late Ron Pickering) had their citations read by Mr Nick Brooking; the Director of Sport at the University.

Maggie was delighted and surprised to be awarded this degree and she was pleased that her husband and parents attended the Graduation ceremony as without theirs and her children, Tom and Kari's support she would not have been able to commit so much time to netball. "It was a great occasion in a fabulous setting and one that I will remember for ever; super to meet and chat to Jean Pickering who has devoted her life to supporting and fundraising for young talented athletes, great to also see so many young graduated receiving their degrees - my thanks to the University of Hertfordshire for looking after me and my guests so well on the graduation day".

Well done Brian!

Netball East is delighted to announce that Brian Worrell Honorary Life Member has recently been awarded two further awards for his services to sport. Brian has been Chairman of the Shelley Netball Club since 1967, is an executive member and President of Watford Netball League, Governor of the charity Sports Aid (East Region), a Dacorum School Sports Partnership management committee member and still finds time to umpire, coach, assess and mentor for local and county leagues.

Brian developed a youth section at Shelley Netball Club which helped to launch the Dacorum Community Netball Coaching Centre ran by Shelley Netball Club; his expertise has benefited many young netballers and in the last 18 months took on the role of Secretary to drive the formation of the newly established Dacorum Sports Network. On top of this achievement Brian is passionate about horse carriage driving and obtained funds to purchase equipment and develop the membership of the Chiltern Harness Driving Club. Brian has been awarded Dacorum's Sporting Hero Award and the Herts Sports Partnership "Lifetime Achievement" Award. Congratulations Brian and thank you for all your years of hard work!



Regional Clubs League

After nine rounds of the Regional Clubs League, Division 1 is being led by Turnford, closely followed by Ipswich Ladies and Watford Premier, who are equal on points. Matches in the league have been fast and furious so far this season with some very close results and an excellent standard of netball.

This season the top 2 teams from division 1 will progress to the Premier league play offs with the introduction of Premier League division 3 next season.

In Division 2 where Team Beds lead, with Eastwood hot on their tails after winning the top of the table clash 40-38 on 13th December. Watford Premier 2 also make the top 3 in this division. There is barely anything between the middle teams, all registering either 3 or 4 wins, and points therefore incredibly close. The New Year will be extremely exciting for all!

The two junior regional leagues kick off in January with the champion teams from each county league competing to represent Netball East at the National U16 and U14 finals in May. The top two teams from each section will proceed to the national finals.

Kendra Slawinski (Mavericks), John Pitts (Eastwood) and Mike Bedford (Regional Competition Chair) have all recently been appointed onto the England Netball National Competition Advisory Group.

International Netball Is Returning in February 2010!

It's the return of The Co-operative International Netball Series in February and this time it's England v number one in the world, Australia. Following the sell out crowds at last year's England v Jamaica game, we are expecting demand to be high and the atmosphere to be electric. The England v Australia game is an imperative competition for both sides of the hemisphere as essential world ranking points are up for grabs. Both teams will demonstrate the ability to think on their feet, showcasing desirable moves and technical skill.

It's going to be a great spectacle for ongoing netball fans and the perfect opportunity to introduce new spectators to the sport. The series takes place at the Echo Arena Liverpool, the Trent FM Arena Nottingham and The O2 Arena London from the 19th-23rd February 2010 and tickets are selling fast!!!

For ticket information and prices please visit www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/International/The-Co-operative-International-Netball-Series-February-2010





Gilbert Sponsorship

Netball East are pleased to announce that their sponsor Gilbert are offering Netball East clubs 15% discount on all orders. To receive this discount go to www.gilbert-netball.com and link through the IFNA online shop. When in the checkout enter the discount code YPH24. Enjoy!

Calling all coaches...

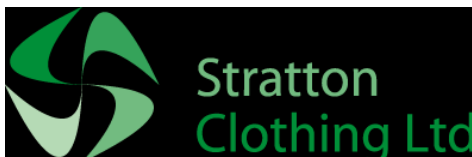
Juliette Stebbings, Postgraduate student at Loughborough University is completing her PHD in Sports Psychology and needs some help from you coaches... She is researching the experiences of sports coaches and coaching styles. All you need to do is complete a questionnaire (which should take no longer than 10 minutes) on the link below:

www.survey.lboro.ac.uk/coaching. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Dates For Your Diary

UKCC Level 1 - Beds - 12 and 13 Dec and 17 Jan 2010
UKCC Level 2 - Essex - 23 and 24 Jan, 20 and 21 Feb and 21 March
UKCC Assessor training - Hitchin - 29 and 30 Jan 2010
Coaching workshop - HSV - 31 Jan 2010
CAPS assessment day deadline - 12 Feb 2010
UKCC Level 1 - Cambs - 16 and 17 Feb and 14 March 2010
Coaching workshop - HSV - 28 Feb 2010

NETBALL EAST WOULD LIKE TO SAY A HUGE THANK YOU TO STRATTON CLOTHING FOR SUPPLYING THE REGIONAL ACADEMY KIT THIS YEAR



To contact Stratton please call
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