

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017

League Chair: Ashley Layfield,  
Secretary: Anita Eccleston,  
Umpire Secretary: Patsy Power,  
Treasurer: Sarah Dodd,  
Affiliations Secretary: Alison Ravenscroft.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from: Allsorts (new team)

28 teams all in attendance

Anneka (Cheshire Ndo on facebook) attended

Brian Morgan (Timekeeper) in attendance

### **2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes from 2016 AGM sent to all teams no points raised.

### **3. Chairman's address**

Chairperson Ashley Layfield opened the meeting.

### **4. Treasurer reports – Financial – (SD) Sarah had copies of the report for teams to collect.**

The league has a healthy balance. The treasurer's report for 2016/17 is available on request.

### **5. Umpire's Secretary Report (Patsy)**

Umpire abuse across all divisions and teams. Umpires will not change their minds on their decisions. All teams need to know the new rules and teams can consult the England website or order a rule book for a small cost. Patsy will be encouraging her umpire team to use the warning procedure this season. If there are any discussion then two umpires should be present and only team captain can approach the umpires.

No body piercing or fit bits to be worn during a game. No sharp hair accessories

If you are playing against a team in same colours home team stay and the away team change to different colour bibs. There are now 4 sets of bibs with Brian.

There was a concern with umpires, umpiring a team they coached or worked closely with so Patsy will be asking all umpires to declare their team and will rota them to not umpire them to cover the game.

Complaints about a team or umpire will be investigated seriously if it is seen by the committee to be a genuine complaint. Patsy has designed a new form which requires final checks but it will be emailed to teams. Complaints are to be made in writing to the League Secretary and Umpire Secretary first.

Verbal complaints are to be made at the end of the game by the team captain and the two umpires must be present.

Gemma from Poulton Vics asked if complaints can be made about a team verbally the answer was yes.

If a team has an issue with an umpire such as clash of personality they will not be changed.

## **Affiliation Secretary's Report - ACR**

2016 – 2017 season went smoothly and teams were efficient sending in their receipts and team sheets etc. There were no issues regarding players all were affiliated. Thank you. All teams are to be affiliated by 1<sup>st</sup> September. The affiliation secretary does this role for both the EPIC and Wirral leagues so there is a lot of work to do at the beginning of the season, so please complete your affiliation and send your player sheet back as soon as you can.

We understand it's difficult to affiliate 2<sup>nd</sup> claim players as it is not within your control, however those who have a game the first week please push for this to be done. There should be no delays to 1<sup>st</sup> claim. When adding new players to your player list, please give 24-hours' notice, and make sure you send the EN receipt to the affiliations secretary.

For anyone under 18 years of age, you must provide the date of birth on the player list. If you as a manager have ticked the safeguarding box you are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of the child. Ensure the player is capable to play in a competitive league and against adults.

Currently Merseyside do not charge additional fee for 2<sup>nd</sup> claim players; Cheshire fee is £1. Terri from Wirral Lilacs raised a point that Chester are charging £15 for second claim players. (This appears to be for a club fee rather than an England netball fee). Affiliations have increased so from 10 players being £270 in 2016 season it is now £380. Cheshire has now brought their county fees in line with Merseyside at £1. If you are playing in the league you must be affiliated to England netball. If you play in the Welsh league you must pay and affiliate to England Netball.

## **Secretary's Report (AE)**

7 teams left the league this season – 3 new teams joined. League reduced to 10 teams in Divisions 1 & 2 and 9 teams in Division 3. AR and AE have two contacts which have been asked this evening to fill slot in Division 3. Fixtures will follow once it has been confirmed.

There has been a shift in places in each division (see promotions & relegations).

|               |              |   |                     |
|---------------|--------------|---|---------------------|
| Name changes: | Nyehome      | → | Pulford             |
|               | Evolution    | → | Cheshire Oaks Honda |
|               | CMC UK       | → | Clarity One UK      |
|               | Neston Neons | → | Neston              |

| League Results 2016/17 | Division 1  | Division 2            | Division 3        |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> place  | Ocean   | <b>Dolly Mixtures</b> | <b>Harlequins</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> place  | Simply the Best                                       | <b>5*Supreme</b>      | <b>Storms</b>     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> place  | Ellesmere Port Lilacs                                 | Nyehome               | <b>P &amp; K</b>  |
| <b>Relegations</b>     | Scorpio and BOA                                       | Evolution             | n/a               |
| <b>Promotions</b>      | Teams in bold have been promoted to next division up. |                       |                   |

Due to the reduction in teams the league will be finishing in the second week of May. We will now have a break the week before Christmas. The league will re-start on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

As Division 3 has an odd number of teams there will be slots when the teams can choose to play a friendly this will be clear on fixtures and players who are interest please let Anita know or you can comment on the Facebook page.

If teams are cancelling a game, teams must remember to text the secretary Anita first. **PLEASE AVOID POSTING CANCELLATIONS ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE.** When cancelling contact the team manager from the other team and the Umpire Secretary once Anita has been informed.

Last year the cancellation fee was £12 to the other team and deduction of 3 points also teams are only able to cancel 3 games throughout the whole season. Due to the increase in fees it was put to teams for a vote that the Cancelling fee should now be £30 and 3pts

**Motion carried 29 votes.**

Put to vote increase goals for a cancelled game or friendly to 20-0.

**Motion carried 29 votes.**

Teams can convert games to a friendly rather than cancelling. Playing a friendly means teams will not have to pay the other team for the cancellation or lose 3pts. Teams can play with a minimum of 5 players. If converting a match to a friendly, the team must let the secretary Anita know first only then once confirmed team captain can notify other team and post on Facebook for other players etc.

The introduction of scorers last year for the matches improved the speed and flow of the games played and overall teams thought it was much better, however there were some issues with teams not being able to provide a scorer, some scorers were inexperienced leading to errors and confusion, and some teams didn't provide a scorer if there were cancelled games etc.

The committee had previously discussed on some new options to build on the success of introducing scorers last year. There were 3 options were put to the teams:

**Option 1:** Keep as previous season – 1 person from each team scores.

**Option 2:** Trial a new option. 2 members from the 'Home' team score the match before/after their game according to the rota. This will mean teams only have to score 9 matches all season. Scorers will now be seated at a scoring table with score boards and manual recording sheets.

**Option 3:** To have no scorers at all.

Voted Option 1 – 0

Voted option 2 – **28 voted – motion carried.**

Voted option 3 – 1 vote

Another option was discussed of paying for scorers – this option was weak because only 4 volunteers kindly put their names forward. Ideally would need a squad of 10 for it to be feasible.

The secretary has been asked by EPSV to change EPIC League to EPSV all 29 teams voted against changing the name.

As the bank balance is healthy it has been suggested by the committee to have a more professional Website which would include league documents, fixtures, electronic league tables and a new text facility for updating scores. This would save time manually updating spreadsheets but the secretary would still collect scoresheets and do some cross-referencing of results.

**Option 1:** To have a new EPIC website (Facebook will still be active but have more of the notices)

**Option 2:** Keep it as it is with just the Facebook page and manual scores.

Option 1 – **15 votes – motion carried**

Option 2 – 8 votes

5 abstained

Simply the Best asked if a young player could be eligible to play once they turn 15 on their birthday and not that they must be 15 on the 1<sup>st</sup> September to play in the league.

**Option 1:** Keep as must be 15 as at 1<sup>st</sup> September

**Option 2:** eligible to play as soon as had 15<sup>th</sup> birthday

Option 1 – 3 votes

Option 2 – **22 votes – motion carried**

Abstained – 3

The committee suggested with introducing new score system etc that introducing that the 'Home' team has first centre will speed up the teams getting onto court ready to play.

**All agreed - 29 votes – motion carried.**

Big cheer for Brian for timekeeping all season **THANK YOU!!**

AOB:

Any outstanding fees for cancelled games and scoring must be paid to either league or team before playing Sept 7<sup>th</sup> 2017.

## **6. Election of Officers All current officers staying in post for another season.**

- i) The Chairman = Ashleigh Layfield
- ii) The Secretary = Anita Ryan
- iii) The Treasurer = Sarah Dodd
- iv) The Umpire Secretary = Patsy Power
- v) The Affiliation Secretary = Alison Ravenscroft

AGM closed at 8 pm