**Minutes of the Virtual Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 27th June 2023**

**Via Zoom**

**Chair:** Paul Clark (PC)

**Minute Secretary:** Nasem Khan (NK)

**Present - Voting: 29**

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| Almena Theobald (EHLM),  Christchurch Ladies | Jen Watton, Cambridgeshire CNA |
| Anne Harper x2,  Norfolk C.N.A.  Premier Netball Club | Jess Thomas x3,  Dragonflies Netball  Fusion NC  Essex Thurrock CNA |
| Camilla Baxter, Harpenden NC | Julie Cameron, Burwell NC |
| Cathy Williams, Hertfordshire CNA | Karen Heskett, Crosskeys NC |
| Danielle Belton, East Essex CNA | Kay Smith, Letchworth Ladies NC |
| Donna Cooper x2, Hartismere High  School Rep. Finborough Ladies NC | Lauren Campbell, Stretham Netball club |
| Donna Finch, NFG Netball Club | Laura Newton, Herts Dynamos |
| Emily Wingate, St Joseph College | Linda Gaine, Kats NC |
| Gloria Keech, Bedfordshire CNA | Nasem Khan (EN),  Luton Tornadoes NC |
| Gwen Foster, Ipswich Ladies NC | Sandra Smith, Star NC |
| James Bowman, Norfolk United | Vicki Revels, Kestrel NC |
| Jan Hunt x2 Cockfield NC  Suffolk CNA | Hannah Skinner, SAS Netball Club |
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**Present – Nonvoting: 12**

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| Bernie Palmer, East RMB | | Paul Clark, East RMB |
| Brian Worrell, EHLM | | Philippa Hicks, EN P&DM East |
| Cheryl Danson OBE, Saracens  Mavericks | | Rachelle Anderson, East RMB |
| Chris Beasley, Herts CNA vice chair | | Sandra Howlett, Heritage League |
| Chris Laundy, EHLM | | Sheelagh Redpath, East President/  EHLM |
| Jo Stentiford, East RMB | | Tiffany Koyas, East RMB |
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**Apologies: 18**

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| Chloe Etheridge, St Neots NC | Lesley Cattanach, Dolphins NC |
| Claire Southam, Granger NC | Madeleine Haydon, Rockets NC |
| Dawn Bullimore, East Essex CNA | Marie Stevenson, Ely Netball Club |
| Hayley Nicholas-Jago - JNA | Mike Bedford, East EHLM |
| Janet Ryan, Flames NC | Mrs Sally Sabberton-Coe,  Framingham Earl High School |
| John Pitts, Eastwood NC | Phyll Karkoski, Phoenix NC |
| Judith Walton, West Norfolk Netball League (WNNL) | Ruth Plant, East RMB |
| June Griffith, East Competition TSG lead | Tracey Bateman, Zebedee NC |
| Katie Noakes, Kats NC | Yvonne Adshead, East RMB/EHLM |

1. **Chairpersons welcome and opening remarks**

The Chair Paul Clark welcomed everyone to the East AGM 2022.

The last 2 years have been like no other, but we survived thanks to the combined effort of volunteers and England Netball staff. Over the last 12 months there has been a strong focus on rebuilding the game to pre-pandemic levels which was a highly successful process. Many thanks and congratulations to everyone for their passion, energy, and commitment.

Due to the pandemic England Netball rightly cancelled the Goalden Globes event. The East wanted to recognise and celebrate our volunteers working in netball and our netballers working in the emergency services. The Pride of the East Lockdown Legends awards was launched with over 200 nominations received. Every nominee was awarded a special ‘Netball East Lockdown Legend’ pin badge. Special thanks to Betty Brocklesby on her winning Pin badge design and Saracens Mavericks who invited all the design competition entrants to be ball girls at their VNSL Match. Thank you and congratulations to all and to the Pride of the East team led by Lucy Hodges.

This year EN introduced the ONE awards as a successor to the Goalden Globes. The East received 105 nominations across 10 categories. The East awards will take place on 3rd July in Cambridgeshire. Best wishes to the nominees. Thank you to the panel of East Honorary Life Members.

PC thanked all colleagues on the RMB and County Chairs. Special mention to Cheryl Danson who stood down as Governance lead at last year's AGM, Lucy Hodges who stood down as Volunteer lead due to work commitments and Olivia Petherick who stood down as Chair of Cambridgeshire.

Special thanks given to Jan Burke who stood down from regional duties after many exemplary years serving on the RMB, Chair of the competition TSG and organiser of the regional school's event.

PC thanked Phillipa Hicks (East P&DM), Nasem Khan (East RO), all the NDOS and NDCC for their continued work and support in the region.

PC highlighted the exciting future of the sport with England Netball’s new 10-year strategy accompanied by 5 years funding from Sport England.

1. **Apologies for absence**

NK confirmed that 18 apologies had been received. 12 non-voting members, 29 voting members. Total 59.

1. **Minutes of the AGM Tuesday 28th June 2021**

3.1 True record – Accuracy agreed\*

3.1 Minutes of the AGM 2021

3.2 Matters arising: None.

3.3 Adoption of the minutes

\*A spelling error noted with wording ‘presentation’ on page 3. **Action**: NK to amend

The minutes were noted as a true record.

Proposed by: Jess Thomas (Essex Thurrock C.N.A Chair) and seconded by Gloria Keech (Bedfordshire C.N.A. Chair). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

1. **Presentation and Adoption of the Annual Report**

Reports were circulated to members prior to the AGM.

PC thanked Rachelle Anderson on the report collation and production and to everyone who contributed, County Chairs, TSG’s, RMB, and partners.

No questions received. PC asked for a seconder to approve and adopt the Annual report.

Proposed by: The RMB and seconded by Almena Theobald (Christchurch Ladies NC). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

**5. Presentation and adoption of the Annual Statement of Accounts:**

Accounts were circulated to members prior to the AGM.

JS noted that the accounts are from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 and summarised the report. JS highlighted that this report includes the year of COVID. JS notes that in the following year (the year to 31st August 2022) the region reduced membership fees to £nil to further give back and help alleviate the financial pressures many our members have faced. This reduction in membership costs will be reported in next year's accounts.

JS asked if there were any questions. No questions received.

Proposed by: The RMB and seconded by Cathy Williams (Herts C.N.A Chair). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

PC thanked JS for all her hard work with the accounts. Brian Worrell thanked and congratulated the board on a very positive report that shows the resilience of netball.

**6. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner**

PC confirmed that Berg Kaprow Lewis LLP is happy to be re-appointed for the independent review of the accounts next year. PC asked for a seconder.

Proposed by: The RMB and seconded by: Jess Thomas (Essex Thurrock C.N.A. Chair). Appointment agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

JS to ask Berg Kaprow Lewis LLP to audit accounts for another year.

**7. Election of the RMB Officers**

PC confirmed that some officer roles have come to end of term. Of those, Jo Stentiford is seeking re-election. Lucy Hodges has stepped down due to work commitments. The role was advertised earlier this year and details circulated with the AGM paperwork. One application was received from Ruth Plant who was co-opted on to the board 3 months ago. Ruth is currently organising the ONE awards and would like to stand for election.

PC confirmed elected officers are:

* Chair: Paul Clark
* Chair, Regional Programme Planning Group: Yvonne Adshead
* Officiating Lead: Bernadette Palmer
* Communications & Campaigns Lead: Rachelle Anderson
* Appointed Officer: Tiffany Koyas
* Treasurer: Jo Stentiford (3-year term)
* Volunteer Development & Recognition lead: Ruth Plant

There are some vacancies which the board will work on over the next few months:

* Governance lead
* Youth Advisory Group lead

With no further question raised, PC asked for a seconder.

Proposed by: RMB and seconded by: Jess Thomas (Essex Thurrock CNA Chair). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

**8.** **Proposed resolutions**

Resolution of Membership – None received.

**9. Membership Fees**

Proposal to re-introduce the regional fee, but with no increase from pre-covid. This has not been increased for several years. The board may need to look at an increase in the future as the new strategy rolls out. JS asked if there were any questions. Brian Worrall asked how O18 and U18 were split. Philippa Hicks clarified this is based on date of birth, with the cut off on 31st August. Discussion that the wording to make it clearer should be amended to say ‘18+over’. Philippa to take proposal back to EN.

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| Membership group | Fee |
| O18 | £1.20 |
| U18 | £0.50 |
| U14 | £0.30 |
| U11 | £0.00 |
| Schools/colleges | £5.00 |

Proposed by: RMB and seconded by: Almena Theobald (Christchurch Ladies NC). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

JS to confirm with EN the 2022-23 East regional fees approved.

**10. Proposed amendments to the Constitution**

Proposal circulated to members prior to the AGM. Three proposed amendments:

1. Re-wording on the East’ vision mission’ statement. Tidy up to get consistency of terminology aligned with future wording.
2. An option to increase co-opted and elected members to give the board options and capacity to grow.
3. Change registration scope to accommodate virtual AGM. To accommodate and reflect EN constitution and recommendations to regions.

Proposed on mass by: RMB and seconded by: Jan Hunt (Suffolk CNA Chair). Agreed unanimously, no abstentions.

The proposed amendments were approved and will be consolidated in a revised constitution with immediate effect.

.**11. Closing Remarks and Any Other Business**

PC thanked the following:

Everyone for attending the AGM and for their continued support.

The RMB for their exceptional commitment and support during another challenging year.

The County Chairs, for their exceptional hard work, continued support and dedication which has been outstanding.

Sheelagh Redpath (East President, East HLM and EN HLM) for her continued support and dedication

Nasem (East regional Officer) for her tireless work and support behind the scenes to support and promote netball in the East, through RMB and across the East.

#### **12. Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 8pm.