

Welcome to the fourth issue of the Oxfordshire Netball Newsletter! We've had a busy few months, and as ever there is lots of news, announcements and information here for anyone involved in Netball in our area... so enjoy!

Oxfordshire Netball have their own website, live early in July. It holds information on everything netball in our county, under different sections. Visit [www.oxonnetball.co.uk](http://www.oxonnetball.co.uk) to have a look.

England Netball have also refurbished their website and all clubs affiliated to England Netball have their details on the club finder site. If you want to find your local clubs, simply go to [www.englandnetball.co.uk](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk) and type in your postcode! Why not have a look for your club? The website contains a lot of useful information and news is updated regularly.

We reported in the April edition of the Newsletter that the Abbey U14 team were named Oxfordshire Sports Council Junior Team of the Year. Apologies to Tessa Hughes who was the captain of the team (named as Emily Read). They received a trophy as well as a certificate and £500!

There has been a lot of activity over the last couple of months – the leagues are running well for the summer season, there have been play-offs and trials in preparation for next year's South Region entrants – Trinity were unlucky not to make a place in the England Netball Premiership. We wish Trinity, Abbey and Abingdon Centre lots of luck in the South Region Leagues in September – we hope to keep you

all updated with fixtures and results later in the year.

### Tournament Reports - Versatility and Mixed

"Vale Netball Club would like to thank all clubs who took part in the Versatility Tournament on 6th May. An enjoyable day was had by all and we have received some great feedback from clubs saying how much they enjoyed it. Congratulations to Brize who were the overall winners of the Tournament and took home the Cup and to the runners up, Abbey. Well done also to Vale who took home the plate. We look forward to attending next year!"

The rain managed to hold off for the majority of the mixed netball tournament! We had a fantastic day, raising £801.60 for the new facilities. The project is progressing well, and Sue Blackshaw is currently looking for a solicitor to help with the next stages! If anyone can help please contact Sue at [theblackshaws@hotmail.com](mailto:theblackshaws@hotmail.com) The winners – taking home the trophy for the second year running, were Oxford Semiconductor A. With Lucky Seven as runners-up. Photos of the event were taken by local player Kathleen Bailey – I will send out details of how to view these soon. Photos were also taken by Howard from UK netball. These can be seen at <http://www.netballimages.com/gallery.php?qid=59>.

### 2007 AGM

The AGM is an opportunity for the ONDB to show just how much we are hoping to achieve over the next

year, now that we have had a year to set ourselves up truly as a development board. We continue to ask for your support and comments/suggestions as to what you feel are important issues both at county level and beyond.

I recently represented Oxfordshire at the South Region AGM, where Paul Clarke the interim CEO of England Netball was grilled with issues we care about here in the South. One of the most exciting, yet still embryonic developments in the South is potential for a Junior Superleague team to be set-up – this will act as a lead for the future, allowing the South to compete for a Superleague franchise. It was great to see representatives at that meeting from both Kidlington Netball Club and Abingdon Centre Netball Club.

### Umpiring Update

A C award course was run on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June at John Mason School, Abingdon. The tutor was Jenny Poore, regional umpiring secretary. 12 candidates attended who are now equipped further with the skills and knowledge to progress towards taking their test in the coming seasons. On 14<sup>th</sup> July, another course is being held at the same venue, this is now fully booked.

New dates for umpiring courses will be announced in the next month, no waiting lists will be held. Places will be taken on a first come first served basis.

The England Netball Umpiring pathway has a number of stages; the beginner course is for those who are starting out umpiring and

will provide the basics, such as working a score card and blowing the whistle for basic infringements. The next level is the C award course for those interested in taking their umpiring further. To attend this course you will already be umpiring in a club, school environment, with the ability to use a scorecard and blow all infringements with the introduction of the relevant hand signals. For those wanting to take umpiring further there is B award, progressing to A award through to the IFNA international umpire award.

You are required to attend an umpiring course before progressing onto to taking your test. Should you have experience umpiring matches, you will be able to take the C award course without attending the beginner course.

In order for umpires to gain the experience required to pass the C-award, Oxfordshire Netball have introduced "Oxfordshire Assessed" umpires, who can umpire in lower divisions in the Oxfordshire leagues. Should you require any information on testing and umpiring in Oxfordshire, please contact Debbie Horne, County Umpiring Secretary on [Odbumpiresec@aol.com](mailto:Odbumpiresec@aol.com) for more information.

### Coaching Update

Since the last newsletter, UKCC Level 3 netball coaching certificate has gone live. The first course will be in Northumbria, with the next at Nottingham Trent University dates 13,14 & 28 October 07, 4th November 07, 2nd December 07. The course is £1,200, however there are a number of bursaries available to assist you should you be

interested in taking your coaching qualifications forward.

There will be more level 1 & 2 courses running throughout the South Region in the coming year with dates on England Netball website, go to [http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/GetInvolved/Coaching - UKCC Netball/index.php](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/GetInvolved/Coaching-UKCCNetball/index.php) for more information.

A huge thank you to Judy Basford for her time committed to coaching secretary, we wish her all the best for the future.

### Partnership Academies

2007/8 will see the introduction of partnership academies in Oxfordshire. The academies are for talented players and fit into the England Netball talent pathway shown below



The academies will run on Sundays from September '07 in Chipping Norton and Abingdon with the final sessions potentially at Headington Girls School, further information to follow on this. Sessions will be skills based, with no competition. In order to be selected for the academies, trials will be held in September. These will be for U14 & U16 girls. Letters will be distributed to clubs

and schools in the next week to nominate players they believe meet the performance standards. Each academy will require a level 2 coach, ideally with experience of coaching beyond club level, they will be assisted by a level 1 coach. Any coaches interested in the academies should contact Sarah Tamone for further information.

### Junior Development in Oxfordshire

With exciting new developments about to go live for the elite young players in our county, the ONDB is aware that there is much work to do in order to improve the pathway for juniors in our area. With the new England Netball structure in place, each county has a lot of work to do in order to build up the standard of junior netball from within our clubs, to give the top players challenging competition locally. There are many options for us to take, and many volunteers who are passionate about junior netball, and as such the ONDB is inviting people interested in this matter to our focus discussion group on Junior netball structure within Oxfordshire. The date for the meeting is **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm at Oxford Science Park.**

## Courses

There are a number of generic Sportscoach UK courses running throughout the county including Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Equity in Your Coaching. These are essential for CAPS, but also ensuring that coaches and club personnel are up to date on changes to child protection policies and to share good practice.

To find a course near you, visit <http://www.oxonactivesports.co.uk/main.asp?page=688>

### Young Netball Organiser Course

This course is for 14+ year olds to gain an introduction to netball coaching and provides information which equips them with the ability to organize a High 5 festival. This is being held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August 9:30am-4:00pm at King Alfred's School, Wantage, at the cost of £10 per person.

### Jan Crabtree Coaching Workshop

Jan Crabtree, coach of Team Bath and England U21 team will be taking a coaching workshop on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July '07 at Lord Williams's Lower School, Thame. The cost will be £5 to coaches with a £10 deposit made payable to OCNA, refundable on the day with attendance. To book your place contact Judy Basford – address given out via an earlier email, by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Contact Kate on [ondbsecretary@googlemail.com](mailto:ondbsecretary@googlemail.com) for more information.

### Oxfordshire Youth Games

This weekend, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July, is the county youth games. The event

will see some 700 children playing a number of sports, with netball being one of them! The High 5 competition has two teams representing each district. All players will be notified of their local club to encourage them to continue playing the game outside of school hours.

## CAPS

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**CHALLOW**  
**TRINITY**  
**ABINGDON CENTRE**

All 3 of the above clubs received their Bronze CAPS (Club Action Planning Scheme) last month. This was the result of hard work from club members and the commitment each club has to developing not only their players but also, personnel within the club, with a number of newly qualified coaches and umpires.

Well Done to you all!

CAPS is England Netball club accreditation scheme, achieving this means that the clubs also get Clubmark, which states that they are a child friendly and safe environment. CAPS has 3 stages which are Bronze, Silver and Gold. The next submission dates for folders are 10<sup>th</sup> August '07 and 9<sup>th</sup> November '07.

If your club is interested in doing CAPS please contact Sarah Tamone on [stamone@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:stamone@oxford.gov.uk) or 01865 467238 for further information.

Following on from this Wallingford have been selected for the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership Focus Club Programme, run by Steve Kemp, Club Development Officer. If they achieve CAPS by March '08, the club will be awarded £200. For more information on the scheme, please visit [www.oxfordshiresport.org](http://www.oxfordshiresport.org) and look under club development.

## School Club Links

From September, there will be a focus on developing formalized school club links. This can be in the form of a club coach running an after school session, coaching in curriculum time etc. In return, schools will direct players to their local CAPS accredited club, or to clubs actively working towards increasing membership for a junior section. If you have any ideas on this or would like more information, please contact Sarah Tamone.

Finally, what would you like to see in the next issue? It would be useful to have your input on the content of the newsletter. Also, please send your news/stories in so we can share with everyone your successes or anything else that you wish to report.

Thank you!

Kate Blackshaw & Sarah  
Tamone