

General

New Year Honours Award

England Netball are pleased to announce that Janet Wrighton, Regional Chair – West Midlands was awarded an MBE for services to sport in the 2008 New Year Honours, below is an excerpt from the London Gazette confirming Janet's award. Congratulations Janet!

**N24 THE LONDON GAZETTE
SATURDAY 29 DECEMBER 2007
M.B.E**

Janet Lillian, Mrs. Wrighton, Director for Europe, International Federation of Netball Associations. For services to sport.

Thank you message from Janet Wrighton M.B.E.

"I have been overwhelmed by the telephone calls, greetings cards and email messages received from netball friends across the Country (and around the World) on being awarded the MBE. There have been so many messages that I would like to say a huge "thank you" through the bulletin. This award is for Netball as much as it is for me and for the thousands of volunteers working tirelessly for the sport. I accept this award on behalf of you all. Thank you all, once again."

Liz Broomhead receives an IFNA Service Award

On behalf of England Netball I would like to congratulate Liz on receiving such a greatly deserved IFNA Service Award. Liz's contribution to Netball both nationally and internationally over the years has been outstanding. Well done Liz!

Marg Caldow

Further to the article featured in our December bulletin, England Netball is proud to announce that before her return to Australia Marg Caldow received the Female Coach of the Year Award at the Sports Coach UK Awards Dinner on 12 December.

2008 Flora Marathon Bid

Lyn Carpenter, Elected Director – England Netball will be taking part in the 2008 London Flora Marathon on 13th April. Lyn hopes to raise over £1,600 for Shelter, a charity of which she feels strongly about. This year's marathon is doubly special as it is also being recognised as the 100th in the history of marathons. If you are interested in sponsoring Lyn to raise money for such a fabulous cause please visit: <http://www.justgiving.com/lyncarpenter>

IFNA Rules Review

England Netball received from IFNA the draft text just prior to the office closure on 21 December 2007. All countries have been and were asked to feedback any queries or concerns before Friday 4 January. This has been completed by the relevant England Netball personnel.

In line with the previous information we circulated The IFNA Board have advised the rules will likely come into effect on 1 March 2008, as soon as this has been

confirmed and we receive the final approved text further information will be circulated to the country.

Happy Birthday

England Netball would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Margaret Thompson, Honorary Life Member, who will celebrated her **80** Birthday on Saturday 5 January. Congratulations Margaret!

Carol Metcalf – Regional Chair – North West

England Netball would like to thank Carol Metcalf, who stepped down from the role of Regional Chair North West in November 2007, for her service to Netball over the last few years.

North West Netball Appoint New Regional Chair

Netball North West is delighted to welcome Joanne Moss to their team. Joanne was appointed as Regional Chair on 7 January, and currently works as a partnership manager for Lancashire Sport CSP. She has great understanding of sport and how to develop it and a wealth of experience and enthusiasm. Congratulations Joanne!

North West Netball New Appointment

I am delighted to announce a new appointment in the North West. Elizabeth Burdis will commence as Back to Netball Co-coordinator on 14 January. Welcome to the North West Regional team Elizabeth!

Safeguarding

As you will be aware, Helen Murdock has now left her position as Equity and Welfare Manager. We will be recruiting a replacement, however in the interim period it is obviously important that there remains a lead contact in the organisation for safeguarding and child protection issues. That contact will be Jenny Hotchkiss, jennyh@englandnetball.co.uk (Mobile: 07818 036796), and Jenny will source specialist advice and support on these issues as appropriate.

Can I please ask therefore that if you receive any enquiry which is about, or relates to, a child protection concern or issue, please pass this directly and immediately to Jenny. This includes emails, phone enquiries, written and verbal information. It is also important that confidentiality is maintained in these matters, so once you have passed it on please do not communicate information on such an enquiry to anyone other than Jenny. If for any reason Jenny is not contactable, please in the first instance go to Paul Clark, and if he is unavailable you can contact Nigel Holl.

For those of you based in a region with a Regional Welfare Officer then you can of course contact them, and they will contact England Netball as required.

Good News

I am pleased to confirm that Angela will extend her employment with England Netball as Qualifications Manager with effect from 7 January, 2008.

Farewell

I am very sorry to announce that Cate Wilson, our membership services manager has decided to leave England Netball after a short period with us, during which she has worked extremely hard to improve the services

we provide our members. Cate wishes to stay with us until the end of February to ensure that some further improvements we want to put in place are carried out. I would like to thank her very much for all her hard work during her time here, and wish her all the very best for her future.

Commercial

Events

- The Co-operative Netball Superleague has continued well into December 2007 with Team Northumbria remaining undefeated at the top to the highly contested leagues. England players have begun to return to the teams and the crowds continue to flock in. make sure you continue to watch on Sky Sports.
- The Co-operative Netball Superleague future plans have continued with the first league management meeting held in conjunction with the England Netball Board and future looks to be successful.
- The Co-operative Netball Superleague Final and Play Offs tickers are now available for sale and watch out for a Cooperative Competition in the next England Netball Magazine and win yourself a trip to the final!
- The first round of play offs, featuring the top four teams in the league, will take place on 15 March at Ponds Forge International Sports Centre in Sheffield on 15 March and tickets, priced £5 each, will provide admission for both play off games.

The second round takes place on 29 March at the EIS Sheffield, and tickets are once again priced £5 each. However, if you buy tickets for both play offs weekends, a special price of £7.50 to cover the two weekends is applicable. To purchase your tickets for the play offs, please contact the England Netball Competition and Events Office on 01462 428315 or download a booking form from the events page. As an extra bonus, play offs tickets also provide admission to the BUSA Netball Finals, to be held at the EIS - the leading competition for student netballers in the country.

- Meanwhile, as tickets for the Grand Final, to be played on Saturday 5 April at 7.30pm, are now available from the box office at the K2 Centre in Crawley. Priced £10 for adults and £6 for U16s, tickets are available from the Hawth Box Office on 01293 553636 or on line at www.hawth.co.uk.
- Premier League – Linden finished the first half off he season undefeated in Premier League 1 and the newly promoted teams continue to do well in Premier League 2.
- Competition Monitoring continues with Regional Meetings and this will continue well into the New Year.

Test Series 2008 Announcement

I am delighted to be able to announce that England will again be hosting an International Test Series in 2008. England will play Malawi in April in a three match series. The new force in African netball on English soil will provided a unique test for England's new team starting preparations for the Commonwealth Games in 2010. Make sure you are there to see if England can get back to the habit of winning ways after the disappointment of the World Championships or will the new girls in town cut down our English roses....

The dates are confirmed as follows:

Monday 14 April – Sheffield Arena at 7pm
Wednesday 16 April – Coventry Arena – at 7pm
Friday 18 April – Wembley Arena at 7pm.

Tickets will be on sale with in the next 14 days so keep watching the England Netball website for details or contact the Event Team on 01462 428 316.

Performance

England Netball Names New National Squad Coach

Australian-born Sue Hawkins has been named as England Netball's new National Coach. Formerly head coach of the Auckland Diamonds, a side in New Zealand's National Bank Cup competition, Hawkins will take up her new position in February, in time to observe a young England representative squad in competition in the Netball Europe championships.

In addition to her time in New Zealand, Hawkins has also worked as Senior Netball coach at the acclaimed Australian Institute of Sport, and also spent time as the High Performance Manager at the Australian Netball Association. She has also spent four years working as a commentator for the Australian Broadcasting Commission. And, as Nigel Holl, England Netball's Director of Netball explains, it is this breadth of experience which led to her appointment:

"Sue's knowledge and understanding of the antipodean style of play, both from her time in Australia and New Zealand, will be vital to ensure that England continues to challenge and learns to defeat the world's leading teams on a regular basis. As a former international shooter herself, Sue has a wealth of experience which will help our attacking players to continue their recent rapid improvements, and her appointment is designed to build on the progression which the England squad has made in the last four years under her predecessor, Marg Caldwell."

One of Hawkin's earliest priorities will be to observe England's squad, comprising U21 and younger National squad members, in action at the Netball Europe championships in Glasgow in February with her first competitive challenge being a three match test series against the emerging stars of Malawi in April. Later in the year, during October, England will travel to New Zealand to play a series against the Silver Ferns, who will be looking for revenge after England's surprise win over the Kiwis in May 2007.

Hawkins replaces Marg Caldwell, who coached England to a bronze medal at the 2006 Commonwealth Games and established the side as a major force in world netball, with seven wins in their last eight international

test matches prior to the World Championships. Caldwell's contract ended at the conclusion of the New World Netball World Championships in New Zealand in November, when England's netballers failed to take the bronze medal by a single goal against Jamaica.

As coach of the Auckland Diamonds, Hawkins was credited with developing a number of emerging New Zealand stars, including Maria Tutaia, Paula Griffin and Jodi te Huna, who were all part of the Silver Ferns squad at the recent World Championships. In addition, her understanding of coach development and management will be key to the development of domestic coaching talent:

"In a wider context, Sue will be liaising closely with the coaches of the England age groups at U17, U19 and U21, as well as the head coaches of the Co-operative Netball Superleague franchises," says Holl, "to ensure that the national team programme and overall player and coach development is consistently implemented and managed. We had strong applications for this role, from English and overseas coaches, and I am confident that Sue's appointment will further the progress which England has made in the world game in the past few years."

England Netball's Interim Chief Executive Paul Clark is delighted with the appointment: "England has made great progress over the last four years. Sue has the drive and the ability to take us to another level."

Netball is the world's most popular team sport for women: it is estimated that more than 1.1 million women and girls play regularly in England alone. England is ranked fourth in the world, following the recent New World Netball World Championships, but holds the Commonwealth Games bronze medal, and was the silver medallist at the last World Youth Netball Championships in 2005.



Workforce Development

Officiating

Netball Europe A Award November written test paper (the first step on the road for B umpires becoming an A Award umpire). I am pleased to announce that all 9 candidates who took the paper passed. Results have been sent and they will receive written feedback on any question not answered correctly at a later date.

Netball Europe

The following umpires from England have been invited to participate at the forthcoming Netball Europe competitions

Open – Judith Groves and Janice Treasure

Under 19 – Gary Burgess

Under 17 – Louise Hiscocks, Debbie Morgan and Lucy Mitchell (Lucy is a B award umpire and England Netball identified her for further development and we are delighted that IFNA have appointed her to this even)

Umpire Testers Re-accreditation

Nearly all the regions have undergone their umpire tester re-accreditation – Additional support sheets on ways of giving verbal and written feedback in a positive manner together with the guidance on how testers move during a test have been prepared and will be circulated to all testers in due course

IFNA Workshop

A joint workshop involving performance umpires and coaches is being organized by IFNA is being held in February just prior to the Netball Europe Open Championship in Glasgow. It is hoped that several of England Netball's performance umpires will be attending. It is anticipated that Sheelagh Redpath will attend as an Observer

Umpire Deployment

Umpires continue to be deployed to all national training sessions and it is anticipated that there will also be additional work undertaken at these sessions to disseminate any rules changes prior to implementation within England Netball (this will include the involvement of table officials). Umpires are currently being sourced for the National School Finals in March.

CSNL Umpires

Appointments for the second half of the season were completed following the last match in December 2007 and were made taking into account availability and performance

Officiating Strategy Group

Another meeting of this group is being held at Head Office on Sunday 6th Jan where further work will be undertaken prior to a formal presentation being made the Board of Directors at the end of January

Coaching

2006 & 2007 UKCC Achievement Overview

2006 level 1 courses 91% certificated

12 courses run

207 candidates paid (income of £170 x 207= £35,190)

16 no show assessment

1 NYC

190 certificated

2007 level 1 courses 61% certificated

25 courses run 496 candidates paid (income

£170x496=£84,320)

9 candidates dropped out

2 candidates deferring assessment

34 no show assessment

3 NYC

140 going through the IV process

4 awaiting candidate corrections

304 certificated

2007 level 2 courses 39% certificated

9 courses run 173 candidates paid (income £360x173=£62,280) 7 no show assessments
94 candidates showing not certificated yet
4 NYC

68 certificated

Netball Europe

NE Open Champs- Glasgow February 15-17

Participating countries- England, NNI, Scotland and Wales

Appointed umpires from England- Judith Groves and Janise Treasure

Ticket information available from:

Anitaw@englandnetball.co.uk

Selected squad information on the EN web site

NE Management Meeting Glasgow 15 February

Attendees- Lyn Carpenter (Chair NE) - Janet Wrighton (IFNA Board) - Cheryl Danson- Liz Broomhead- as well as Irene O'Brien (Scotland) and Sally Jarvis (IFNA)

Key Agenda item- NE Strategic plans

IFNA- IUC/ICC Workshop Glasgow- 14/15 February

This will be the first Workshop of its kind where performance umpires and Coaches will be working together led by tutors from the IUC and ICC

Detail of this can be found on the IFNA website under events.

Netball Europe New LOGO Competition

WIN 10 GILBERT NETBALLS



Netball Europe (NE) is inviting all schools and clubs to design a new LOGO

DO YOU HAVE A FLAIR FOR DESIGN?

CAN YOU DESIGN A NEW MODERN AND EXCITING LOGO?

Our current LOGO (above) has been used for over 10 years and we are now looking to replace it with an eye catching netball logo that represents what we are all about, which is bringing together the netballing nations across Europe, for competition and netball development.

To enter the competition, send your design by **1st April 2008** in JPEG, BMP or GIF format to your country Netball Association, via email to:-

England - info@englandnetball.co.uk

Each Member Country will then choose the best 3 LOGO's from their country entries and send them on to Netball Europe for final adjudication.

A prize of **10 Gilbert Netballs** will be awarded to the winner and the new LOGO will be revealed at the Netball Europe Festival in Dublin in June 2008. The

new LOGO will then be used on all publicity for Netball Europe!

Background information

NE is the Federation of European Netball Associations with seven full affiliated country members. These are England, Gibraltar, Malta, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Recently Israel joined as an associate member. NE will continue to grow and seek new European countries to join our Association.

NE was established in 1989 when the International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA), created five regions – Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

A small Management Committee administers NE and finance comes from an annual fee and a rulebook levy from member countries. Annual international competitions are run for members at various age groups.