

We are very proud to promote and financially support the BJNL league to develop our grassroots junior players and continue to offer a competitive platform within a safe environment for players ages 10-19. Many venues have increased their costs, some substantially and to ensure netball continues to be accessible for all supporting the junior league will remain a priority. Thank you to the club coaches who worked tirelessly giving up many hours to facilitate junior netball in Berkshire. Our junior league has continued to thrive offering competitive matches for many junior teams in Berkshire.

Congratulations to all the teams that medaled:

U11 Div 1	U11 Div 2	U12 Div 1	U12 Div 2	U12 Div 3	U13 Div 1	U13 Div 2
Magic	Newbuy	Magic	Bs Sky	Woodley White	Newbury	Tadley
Eagles	Wokingham Red	Eagles	Royals	Windsor	Woodley	Finch
5 ways	Royals Navy	Royals	Newbury	Finch Green	Wokingham Red	Windsor
U14 Div 1	U14 Div 2	U16 Div 1	U16 Div 2	U16 Div 3	U16 Div 4	U19
Magic	Bs Navy	Royals	Royals	Bs Navy	Laurel Park	Royals
Finch Green	Newbury	Magnet	Magnet	Passnplay	Bs White	Royals Navy
Bs Sky	Woodley	Bs Sky	Magic	Rushmoor	Woodley	Magic

I would like to thank two of my fellow board members, Debbie Horn for her continued help with all things technical and Kerry Oliver who has taken on the role of junior league umpiring secretary with the view to supporting and developing our young umpires who officiate the junior league fixtures. Kerry will do this under the guidance of Mary Stanley.

Over the Summer we ran a successful mid-week friendly league at St Neots, this allowed some junior clubs the opportunity to play netball, and we have had lots of positive feedback about the competition and hope to do the same next year.

We ran the National School competition at Theale Green School last October and as always, my thanks go to the Board who helped support the event, Mary who with her army of TEAM WHITE officiated, and Julie Arnold who was the tournament referee.

Congratulations to the schools who went on to represent the County at regional schools:

U14s - Winner: St Georges Ascot; Runner Up: Wellington

U16s - Winner: **\*Wellington**; Runner Up: The Marist

U19s - Winner: **\*Wellington**; Runner Up: The Marist

\*U16 and \*U19 Wellington both went on to represent Netball South at the National Finals.

The 2024 National Schools County tournament U14, U16 & U19 has been set for **Saturday 12th October** at Theale Green School.

Mary Stanley, I know will be in touch to ask for qualified "C" or above umpires to help. The top two from each age group will go on to represent the County at the regional tournament. Berkshire school entry forms have already been sent out.

The board last season decided to support BPNL for season 23-24 - I was heavily involved in sourcing venues and creating fixtures and worked closely with the BPNL Chair Tracey Doran Carter who I must praise for the competent and committed energy she has put into the running of this league. Congratulations to Athena B's who went to the NS regional Div 3 play-offs and subsequently qualified for the regional league. I continue to sit on the BPNL committee for season 24/25 as the Berkshire Netball representative.

Looking ahead we are hoping to have another great season, listening to clubs' requests we have regrouped and refocused to give more opportunities to grassroots County teams, our priority will remain on facilitating junior netball to the highest possible standard while encouraging the development of players, coaches, and umpires but also never losing sight of the game-changing effect sport brings to our lives. Season 24-25 fixtures have been distributed and we are in the planning stages of developing a recreational-friendly league for 24/25 to give even more girls the opportunity to play competitive sport.

Thank you to all for your continued patience and support.