

# REACH OUT BIRMINGHAM



Birmingham Netball Newsletter - Special Edition April 2020

## Welcome

This Newsletter aim to bring netball articles from the Birmingham County. It is our first edition so feedback is very welcome. We would like to keep connected again so if you have any contributions please email at [birminghamnetballassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:birminghamnetballassociation@hotmail.com)



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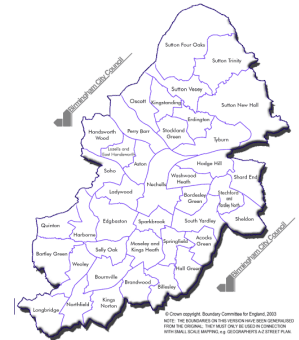
Introducing the NDO

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## Together Birmingham

The Birmingham County embraces netball for all ages and levels across many Leagues and England Netball supported programmes. Birmingham runs academies and school tournaments to nurture talent in the hope that individuals may play Super League or even for England in the future. Here is the map of Birmingham and the Leagues we have today

Academies \* Walking Netball \* Schools \* Senior Winter \*Intermediate \* Bees  
\* Back to Netball \* Senior Summer\*



## League Updates

**Winter** With just 2 games to go the BNL had to stop. The BNL Committee will be reviewing the end of Season results using a "Pools panel result" and will confirm positions ready for Season 2020-21. There will be no AGM so rules will remain. Next Seasons application forms will need to back by end of June so don't miss out !

### Summer

Currently the Summer League has been deferred. There is hope that a half a Season may be played during the Summer however the Summer Committee will take England Netball advice and be patient and safe.

### Intermediates

Has also been stopped for our junior talent.

## Talk Netball

an insight from Birmingham's best - Colette Thomson-MBE England Coach and past Player

We asked Clubs, Leagues and Officials for questions to Colette covering her 'netball career' **For the full interview please go to the website [www.birminghamnetball.co.uk](http://www.birminghamnetball.co.uk)**



- From Sutton Town Intermediates - Q. What did it feel like winning the Commonwealth Games Final in 2019 ?**  
A. Amazing!! I was very calm throughout knowing that we could win if we performed. I feel the last few seconds were a blur. It still feels a bit of a dream come true.
- 2. From Ian Fuller - Umpire International. Q. Having played and coached at every recognised level, has the divide between the player's understanding of the umpire role changed over the years? How so?**  
A. Interesting question Ian!!! I think players are probably more aware of the rules but certainly question more now! Things like contact/contest is a big discussion for everyone. I also think both parties are more willing to talk about it now. Approaching an umpire was pretty unusual back in the "dark ages"
- 3. From Ortonets NC Q. Does pressure feel different or the same from School club levels to Regional To National to win, with the very different audiences? A. For me the pressure as a coach is pretty much the same. Can I make a difference when it matters? I find it difficult to forget a game when I don't think I have coached well. However I do feel the public nature and recent expectation of the International scene make decisions scrutinised far more so I suppose this does add a bit more pressure.**
- 4. From Marston Green Cougars Q. How did you first start netball, what inspired you and how do you feel the dynamics of the game have changed over the years? A. Started playing at school, but not till I was 12. Just enjoyed running around and took every opportunity to play. Never really knew England existed until I was selected for England Schools. Then just wanted to be the best I could. The game is definitely more physical now. Players are stronger and allowed to contest for ball far more than in my days.**
- 5. From BSNL [Summer League] Q. If you could go back to your younger self what netball advice would you give yourself?A. " Enjoy every minute – work hard and always know you have given your all. The highs will be worth all the lows.**
- 6. From Linden NC - Q. As a lifelong member of Linden NC what has been your proudest moment? A. In life it has to be being awarded the MBE and receiving this from the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Internationally it has to be being instrumental in England winning the Commonwealth Games and the impact that that has had on Netball in England. For Linden it is probably winning Wembley clubs tournament at our first attempt, as well as the seeing Linden players Beth Cobden, Layla Guscoth and Lauren Massey represent England at the World Youth Championships in 2013.**
- 7. From Sharon [superfan] [girl fanning] [#colettesno1fan]. Q. You are an MBE WOW, This meant you went to the Palace. Was you tempted to take a memento apart from your medal? A I took a picture of the loos!!!**

[check out the full interview for the evidence!!]



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## Our new Netball Development Officer

### Georgi Rettey



Hi everyone, many of you will know me (or my face!) already, I am an ex player in the Birmingham leagues from being a junior to senior level, current coach, and before this role, I was Warwickshire's Netball Development Officer. I have worked for EN for nearly 3 years since graduating university, where I volunteered as an UNO (University Netball Officer). In this time I have supported different parts of the business as well as in development, working with events, performance and coaching, including the World Cup.

I am really ambitious, motivated and dedicated to netball so have got some big ideas to work on over the coming months and years in the lead up to CWG 2022. I want to work with and support Birmingham netballers in the growth of our sport in the lead up to this event where we are able to showcase netball, once again, on home soil!

I will be working full time, Monday – Friday, 9-5pm but this is of course flexible as is the nature of netball but feel free to contact me directly or via the 'Netball in Birmingham' facebook page. I look forward to meeting you all over the coming months. E: [Georgina.rettey@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:Georgina.rettey@englandnetball.co.uk) T: 07540127403.

## Netball at the Heart

Our court netball has gone for now however there are plenty of videos on line to keep you fit and motivated. See what some of our Birmingham Clubs are doing for their players and families on our website.

There are also England players and other worldwide netball groups posting fitness, skills and drills so come on get your trainers on.

It is so important to keep your mind positive and give yourself a little goal a day especially if you are living alone. Talk to your team mates by phone and social media to keep connected and share a laugh or a tear. You will be surprised how many people there are to support you and keep you on track.

Have a look on our website for inspiring videos from our Birmingham Clubs. Also visit Netball V Covid19 Facebook page to see daily challenges set by NDO's across the Country.



## Quiz Time

Visit the Birmingham Website to enter our fun quiz and test your netball knowledge—there are prizes to be won . Closing date is 30th April 2020 and winners will be pulled out of a hat and notified by email.

Under 16's seek parental permission before entering

## Feedback Welcome

This is our first Birmingham Newsletter— created and published by our Committee Members. Lead by Sharon Smith (Communications lead) and supported by Gaynor Jones (Secretary) and approved by Hannah Reid Chair- man. Please email any ideas for future articles at "[birminghamnetballassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:birminghamnetballassociation@hotmail.com)"

We hope it helps feel connected to your netball family

