

Flames Netball

September 2021 Newsletter: Welcome Back to the 2021/22 Season!

Hopefully all Flames Netball members have had great summer holidays and are raring to get back into training, seeing friends, and just generally having a good time whilst getting fit.

Training

From Friday 10th September onwards, sessions will once again take place at the Church Stretton Leisure Centre on Friday nights on the INDOOR courts (yay!).

5.30 to 6.45:

Up to and including years 9/10/11

6.45 to 8.00:

Up to and including year 5/6/ 7/8

Meet by the doors 10 minutes prior to the session with hands sanitised and wearing masks. You will need to register with your coach for Test & Trace purposes, then make your way straight through the foyer to the playing hall.

- Please wear appropriate training clothes and supportive trainers
- Jewellery, including watches and electronic devices, should be removed
- Hair should be tied back if necessary
- Nails should be short
- A named water bottle is a good idea for refreshments
- A whistle would be helpful for umpiring opportunities.

Parents are politely requested to drop children by the entrance and avoid congregating in a big group in this space.

Our current Covid-19 policy and risk assessment are attached and the latest version can always be found on the Flames Netball website.

Coaching and Matches

As you may recall, Nicky, Clare and Sally have all decided to step back somewhat in their roles at Flames. Nicky continues to be Chair of the club and will oversee the development of coaches, the training program, and the CAPS accreditation, but will no longer be coming to every training session or match. Similarly, Clare continues to be our Level 2 coach and umpire, working alongside the new coaches, but is reducing her committee responsibilities and attendance at club. Sally has lots of exciting plans for her spare time, but we hope she might pop and see us once in a while. We are so grateful for their many, many, years of voluntary service to the club and are grateful for all their teaching, support, and guidance to generations of South Shropshire netball players.

We have a band of eager new coaches who are taking qualifications and working on planning and leading the training sessions. The younger group training will be headed up by Sophie

Burgoyne and the older group by Gail Robinson. Catherine, K-J and Abbie will be supporting the groups.

We are awaiting further information regarding the netball league and Sunday matches; we will let you know more when this information is released and when decisions have been made as to how many teams/age categories we will be entering.

Registration and Fees

All members will need to renew their Flames Club membership and Netball England affiliation for the year.

A separate letter will be sent individually asking for confirmation of the player's personal information, emergency contact details, Covid compliance, etc. Please look out for this and respond to the email promptly.

The insurance, affiliation and membership fees for the coming year will also be released shortly. Without this payment the player won't be insured and therefore will not be able to attend sessions until it is made.

Kit

If you have any outstanding match kit, or know anybody who does, then please return this to Juliet Hurrell as soon as practical. We will be rationalising what we have, and then have great hopes later in the term to be able to purchase some new dresses for some of the teams, if all of our fundraising plans come to fruition.

Website

James Hurrell and Rosie Kirkwood have been working hard on the new Flames website which can be found at www.flamesnetball.co.uk. This will be developed and expanded as time permits. We hope to take some up-to-date photos of the players over the coming months to add to the site, therefore please do make sure you indicate your current preferences for photographs on the registration form.

Instagram

We have registered an account on Instagram – follow us at FlamesNetballShropshire - hopefully we will be able to share updates and activities there as well as the News section of the website. There's nothing there yet though – hopefully soon 😊

Fundraising and Hoopathon

We have lots of fundraising ideas in the pipeline, the most imminent of which is the rescheduled Hoopathon. Hopefully players have already persuaded some family members, friends or neighbours to sponsor them, but if not, now's the time to get on it! A new form is attached to the email, but any previously completed forms will also be valid. Pending fine weather, the Hoopathon is scheduled for Friday 24th September.

New Members

Owing to Covid-19 restrictions and suspended training we haven't welcomed many new members over the last year or two. We would however very much like to grow this age group in the club. If you know of any children in years 5, 6, or 7 who might like to join us, please do give them a nudge and ask them to get in touch!

Older Members

We very much encourage older children at the club to get involved with developing not only their play skills, but also that of coaching and umpiring. If there are any members in years 9 – 11

that would be interested in pursuing this, please drop us an email or speak with one of the coaches to see what we can do. This may be of particular interest to those who are embarking upon Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Thursday 9th September at 7pm on Zoom. All players and their parents/guardians are welcome to join – please let us know and the link will be sent to you.

If you have any other comments, questions or suggestions get in touch on our new email address, hello@flames.co.uk,

If you can, it would be much appreciated if any forms and monies to the club can be returned promptly in order to reduce the admin time that has to be spent by the unpaid volunteer committee following these things up! We very much look forward to seeing you all again in the coming weeks,

Flames Netball Committee and Coaches

hello@flames.co.uk