



## March 2022 Newsletter

We've made it to the end of the 2021/2022 CVL League matches!!! A mahoosive well done to all concerned. It has surely been the hardest season (but possibly most rewarding?!) in Club history.

The conversations back in September about what teams we could think of entering into the league with the list of players we had back then, and the list of players that we have now are incomparable – we've lost most of the players from the Year 11 intake (except our stalwart Cerys!) but have seen a more than 50% increase in Y8, Y7, Y6 and Y5 intake over the six-month period. And of course, following an almost two-year hiatus of play, it's wonderful to have excited and fresh-faced players joining the club. Players joining so much later than they might have done under normal circumstances and constantly shifting registers has however added extra challenges for our wonderful coaches to navigate. The learning curve for all has been nearly vertical but judging by the delight the players clearly show to be at training and at court, worth all the effort.

There have been many conversations behind the scenes in order to facilitate this growth and furthermore a heavy administrative burden. An unexpected outcome is that we have had to implement a waiting list for places at club (for the first time in the club's history), and the difficult conclusion that for the older age groups we are now at full capacity long term. We are trying to figure out a solution for the younger cohort. The coaches that we have at present simply can't commit any more time than they already do for planning and delivering training as well as supervising the league matches. We would really like to get another lead coach on the team, to take responsibility to run the U11 group (primary school aged children). We would ideally like to run this group as a separate session as it has been done in the past. The logistics of where and when can be sorted out later, but first we need to find our volunteer. **Does anybody know anyone who might be willing to take this on?** We're frankly in a bit of a bind how to run the sessions to give the youngest league players the training they need to play against their league opponents, on the single court we have at the leisure centre in the winter, whilst simultaneously teaching the basic ball skills and theory to these lovely U11 players,

### Committee Meeting

We had a club committee meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March. The minutes can be downloaded from the website if wished. The next meeting will be Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm – all are welcome!

### Covid

The Covid-19 advice has been updated on the website, based upon that issued by Netball England. There will continue to be sanitation of equipment, however all other requirements are now at the discretion of the individual. It would be great if children can continue to take lateral flow tests before coming, and to stay at home if they have a positive result.

We will revert to original Club guidelines for session drop off. For the younger children at the second session, **please bring your child and wait in the foyer** until the coaches indicate that the previous session has finished and they are invited to come into the hall, otherwise it can be



disruptive to the game in play and a bit dangerous. At the end of session **could parents please meet their child in the foyer at 8pm.**

It would be great if all children could be dropped off at their session time and collected promptly, things seem to be slipping, which makes it difficult for the coaches to coordinate and make the most of the session.

### Session Times

The sessions will continue at the current times up until the Easter holidays. The last training session for Spring term will be Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

After Easter we will be playing on the outside courts and all sessions will be in parallel from 6-7.30pm.

The last training session of the year will be Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May. There may be some informal activities planned after half term, and possibly an end of year ceremony on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, but this is all still to be organised and confirmed.

### Kit and Merchandise

The new dresses look absolutely wonderful, and we have heard such positive comments from players, parents and others. All the effort fundraising and sourcing suppliers was worth it! If your child grows out of their dress, please let us know and we can organise a swap for the next size up.

The hoodies also look marvellous. They will continue to be available for anyone that has been postponing their purchase, details are on the website.

We are considering whether any other kit or merchandise would be welcomed? If the children have any ideas then they should mention it to the coaches. We are mindful of sustainability issues and don't want to create unnecessary consumerism or waste, and also don't want any further financial burden on parents, however we also want to listen to the children's views.

The committee thanks everyone, players, coaches and parents, for their unfailing support and enthusiasm at training, matches and on the side-lines. It's truly been a pleasure to bring netball into the children's lives again this year. The committee is however very heavily skewed to reflect the parents from the oldest players and we warmly invite parents from the younger age groups to attend the next committee meeting also, please just email at the time to ask for the Zoom link to be sent to you.